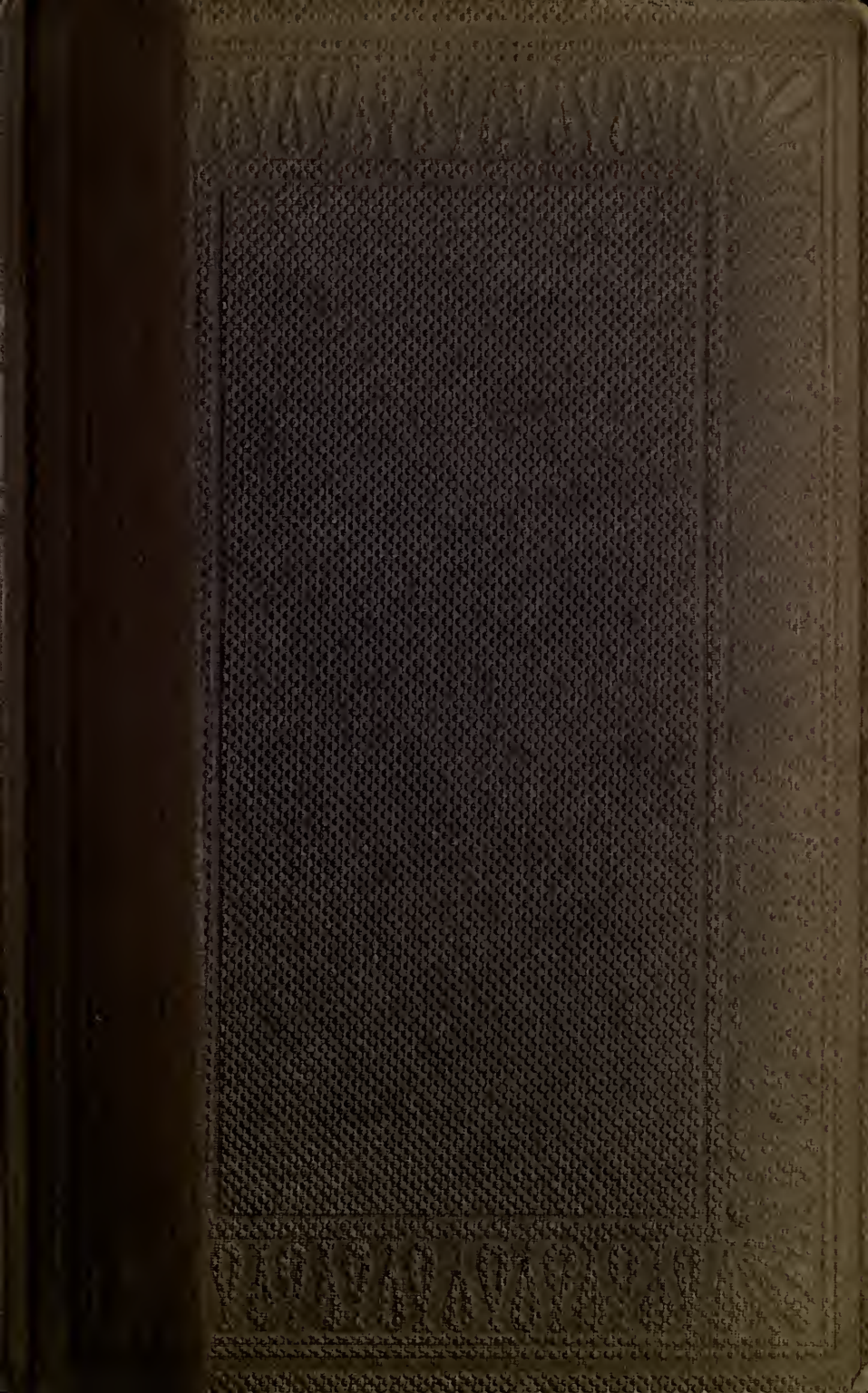




John W. Wells.









GLOSSARY
OF
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
WORDS AND PHRASES,
WITH
EXAMPLES OF THEIR COLLOQUIAL USE,
AND
ILLUSTRATIONS FROM VARIOUS AUTHORS:
TO WHICH ARE ADDED,
THE CUSTOMS OF THE COUNTY.

BY
ANNE ELIZABETH BAKER.

I twine
The hope to be remembered in my line
With my land's language—
By noting e'er they fade away
The words and sports of yesterday.

VOL. II.

LONDON:
JOHN RUSSELL SMITH, SOHO SQUARE;
ABEL & SONS, AND MARK DORMAN, NORTHAMPTON.

M.DCCC.LIV.

PE
1992
B3
V.2



958260

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

WORDS AND PHRASES.

M.

MACARONI. A fop. Equivalent to the modern *dandy* ; now nearly, if not quite, obsolete.

F.E.A. "Macaroon." H.P. H.A.D.

MACKEREL-SKY. A sky mottled with a number of small thin white streaky clouds, foreboding wind and rain; hence the proverbial prediction,—

A mackerel sky

Never holds three days dry.

MACKLE. To contrive. Chiefly applied to trifling things. "She's very handy, she'll *mackle* it."

MACKLED. Spotted. The person whom I heard use this word applied it to marble-paper, which he said was "nicely *mackled*." "*Macule*. To spot, blot; speck, speckle; stain, blemish." Cotgrave. Bailey and Ash give, "*Mackled*, blotted, or daubed in printing." Lat. *Maculo*, to spot.

MACKY. Neat, spruce, smart. "He's quite a *macky* little man." Seldom applied to females. Jamieson has, "*Mack*, neat, tidy."

MAD. Greatly vexed, angry. This sense, though common, is not in the Dictionaries.

G.&P. H.H. T.G. H.A.D.

MADAM. A designation formerly given by courtesy to elderly untitled ladies of the aristocracy; now growing obsolete. It is sometimes used as a word of reproach, or threat, particularly to children. "You'll catch it, *madam*, if you do so;" or, "I'll give it you, *madam*, if you don't do as you're bid."

J.S. F.E.A. H.L. H.A.D.

MAD-CAP. A giddy, thoughtless female. With us it is so restricted; though Todd defines it "a madman, a wild, hot-brained fellow," and Shakspeare and Beaumont and Fletcher so apply it.

Well! which of you two will be my daughter-in-law now? Bizarre, Bizarre, what say you, *Mad-cap*?

FARQUHAR'S Inconstant, ii.

MADE. Fastened, made fast. "Have you *made* the doors?" Also used in the present tense, "*Make* the doors."

The doors are *made* against you.

Comedy of Errors, iii. 1.

Make the doors upon a woman's wit, and it will out at the casement.

As You Like It, iv. 1.

G.&P. H.H. "Mack." H.S. L.H.

MADE. Stolen quickly, and cleverly. Noticed amongst Bailey's cant words.

MADE FOR EVER. An exulting exclamation, denoting that your fortune is made.

H.A.D.

MADGE.	{	The magpie. <i>Corvus pica</i> . (Linn.)
MARGARET.		The same name is sometimes appropriated
MARGET.		to the common brown owl. <i>Strix stri-dula</i> . (Linn.)

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

MAFFLE. Always ^{*}pronounced "moffle." To stammer, to talk indistinctly. There is good authority for this apparently vulgar word. Florio, in his "Worlde of Wordes," gives, "*Seilinguare*, to stutter, to *maffle* or *falter* in speech;" and Cotgrave, under *Bredouiller*, has, "To *maffle* or *falter*; to speak or pronounce imperfectly." The Encyclopædia Metropolitana furnishes the following examples:—

Yet, notwithstanding, he delivered his speeches, by reason of his palseie, in such staggering and *maffling* wise, &c.

HOLINSHED, Ireland, vol. vi. p. 287.

Which so stammered or *maffled* in his talke, that he was not able to bring forth a readie word.

BARET'S Alvearie, in v. "Stammer," from Suetonius.

Faffle appears to be a word of like meaning in the North. See **MOFFLE**.

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. "Moffle." H.P. "Moffle." H.A.D.

2. To waste, to destroy. "He *moffles* all his money away."

3. To do anything in a fumbling manner.

MAFFLING, or **MOFFLING**. Speaking thick and unintelligibly; perplexed, confused; as often evinced in the imbecility and indecision of old age. This word also is sanctioned by Florio. "*Balbezza*, a stammering, a *maffling* in speech."

H.A.D.

MAG. A penny. This cant term, as appears by Jamieson, is used in Scotland for a halfpenny.

MAG. To prate, to chatter. "How the child *mags* away."
"That woman's always *magging* about."

G.&P. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

MAGGOT. An odd fancy, freak, or whimsey. "What *maggot* have you got in your head now?" or, "What *maggot* bites?" is an expression in common use. Dryden sanctions the usage of this (as Todd terms it) "low word."

If this *magget* bite a little deeper, we shall have you a citizen of Bet'lem yet ere the dog-days.

DRYDEN'S Limberham.

Some time ago he had got the travelling *magget* in his head, and was going to the jubilee upon all occasions.

FARQUHAR'S Sir Harry Wildair, iii. 1.

F.E.A. A.W. L.H. H.A.D.

MAGGOT-FLY. A large bright blue fly. *Musca vomitoria*. (Linn.) The common flesh-fly, so called from its depositing its eggs upon butcher's meat.

MAID. Another name for a LACE-HORSE, which see.

MAIDEN-ASSIZE. An assize where there are no prisoners for trial.

MAIDEN-TREES. Unlopped trees.

MAID'S-LOVE. Another name for southernwood. See LAD'S-LOVE.

MAIN. Might, strength. To do a thing "with all your might and *main*," is to do it with all your strength.

B.N.C. H.P.

MAIN. In the *main*, i. e. on the whole. "He's very steady in the *main*."

M.S. C.C. H.P.

MAISTER. The master; the husband. Very common among the agricultural population. A wife's inquiry for her husband usually is, "Where's the *maister*?" and a servant would reply, "*Maister's* a-field." This pronunciation of Master, though apparently vulgar, is only a continuation of the Anglo-Saxon, *mæster*. If we descend a grade lower, a woman would call her husband "her *man*," and a man speaking of his wife would say, "my *ooman*."

B.N.C. T.G. L.H. E.L. "Master."

MAKE. See MADE.

MAKE AWAY WITH. To spend, to pawn. "I'm so distressed, I've bin obliged to *make away wi'* e'ery thing I got."

MAKE BOLD. To venture, to take a liberty; to presume. "If I may *mak so bold* as to ax a favor," is a common prelude when an inferior is soliciting anything from a superior.

I shall *make bold* now to make up to those flirting gentlemen.

DRYDEN'S *Wild Gallant*, iv. 1.

B.N.C. F.E.A. H.H.

MAKE BOTH ENDS MEET. To proportion expenditure to income.

MAKE-'COUNT. To intend, to reckon on anything. "I *make 'count* o' seeing all my children at the feast."

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A.

MAKE GOOD. To recompense, to repay, to give an equivalent. "He gave me a present, but I shall *make it good* to him in some way or other."

MAKE A HAND OF. To use, to turn to account: most frequently used in a bad sense, but not necessarily so. Also to waste; to destroy. "He's *made a hand of* all his property."

F.E.A. H.A.D.

MAKE A MAN OR A MOUSE. To be something or nothing; aptly exemplified by Beaumont and Fletcher.

Your father has committed you to my charge,
And I will *make a man or a mouse* on you.

Love's Cure, ii. 4.

MAKE MUCH OF. To value, to fondle, to caress. Palsgrave has, "I *make moche of*, I cherysshe hym."
"She *made as moche of* me as if I had ben her sonne."

The bird is dead

That we have *made so much on*!

Cymbeline.

Be comfortable to my mother, your mistress, and *make much of her*.

All's Well that Ends Well, i. 1.

H.A.D.

MAKE A NOISE. To scold, to be angry. "If I stay out, Missis 'ill *make a noise*."

F.E.A. H.A.D.

MAKE IT UP. To be reconciled; to settle differences.

H.S.

MAKE OFF. To scamper away.

MAKE A PENNY. To sell, to convert into money. "I'll *make a penny* of it, if I can."

MAKE-SHIFT. An imperfect substitute.

MAKE SURE. To be confident of; to put anything away in a safe place.

H.A.D.

MAKE-UP. "A *make-up* dinner." A dinner composed of scraps and remnants.

MAKE UP TO. To approach; to pay the precursory attentions to a female, when intending matrimonial proposals. "Mr. — has a notion of marrying; he seems *making up* to a certain lady; he's endeavouring to play the agreeable."

C.C.

MAKE UP YOUR MIND. To resolve, to come to a conclusion.

MAKE-WEIGHT. A trifle added. A small candle thrown in, to complete the pound, is called a *make-weight*.

G.&P. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

MALE-PILLION. A stuffed saddle, with a ridge before and behind, for carrying luggage or merchandize. Quite obsolete.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

— MALKIN, or MAWKIN. A stuffed figure of shreds and patches, personating a man, and set up as a scarecrow in fields and gardens, to frighten away birds. *Galliment* is a corresponding term in Devonshire.

M.S. F.E.A. "Maukin." H.S. "Morkin." L.H. E.L.

H.P. "Maukin."

2. An oven-mop. Palsgrave gives, "*Malkyn* for an ouyn, *frovgen*." This name is not so general as DAFFLER, which see.

J.S. H.H.app. A.W. H.P. "Mawkin."

3. A slattern; a tawdry woman. "What a *malkin* she's made of herself." Shakspere uses *malkin* for a dirty drab, in *Coriolanus*.

J.S. F.E.A. H.P. "Mawkin."

MALT-TAP. The wicker strainer that is put in the mash-vat, to prevent the grains passing through the tap. See BATWELL.

H.A.D.

—MAMMOCK. See MOMMOCK.

MANG-HANGLE. Mixed, confused.

J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

MANIKIN. A diminutive person, a small child. "Come, my little *manikin*."

MANKIND-WOMAN. A coarse, masculine female. Frequently used in this sense.

A *mankind* witch! Hence with her, out o'doors.

Winter's Tale, ii. 3.

. . . 'Twas a sound knock she gave me,

A plaguy *mankind* girl; how my brain totters.

BEAUM. & FL. Mons. Thomas, iv. 6.

H.A.D.

MANNERS. Politeness, good behaviour. Often said by a mother to a child when anything is given to it. "Where's your *manners*?" meaning, Why don't you acknowledge it by a bow or a curtesy?

MANNERS-BIT. The last slice left on a plate or dish. "Leave a bit for *manners*," *i. e.* it's not good manners to eat all; for the nursery rhyme tells us,—

Of a little, take a little;

Manners so to do:

Of a little leave a little;

That is *manners* too.

H.H. C.C. H.A.D.

MANTEL-PIECE. The chimney-piece; or the ledge
 MANTEL-SHELF. { or shelf surmounting the chimney-
 MANTEL-TREE. { piece, in front of the grate. Palsgrave has "*Mantyltre* of a chimney."

H.H. H.S. H.A.D.

MANY. To be "too *many* for a person," to be an overmatch.

C.C. v. "Monny."

MANY A TIME AND OFT. A common tautological phrase for very frequently. Shakspeare uses it. See Wilbraham, Cheshire Glossary.

G.&P. F.E.A. C.C. "Monny."

MAPPEN. Perhaps, possibly, probably; a contraction of It may happen. "*Mappen* I may."

B.N.C. H.A.D.

MARBLE or MARVEL THRUSH. The missel thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*. (Linn.) Probably it receives this appellation from the round, marble-like spots on the breast. See FEN-THRUSH.

MARCH DAISY. Probably the early flowers of the common daisy, *Bella perennis*. This plant also bears the name of SILVER PENNIES; and, flowering about the same time as the MARSH PILEWORT, they conjointly receive the name of "silver pennies and golden guineas."

MARE. "To win the *mare* or lose the saddle." A bold adventure; a determination to succeed, or fail altogether. Halliwell has, "*Win the mare or lose the halter*, to play double or quits."

MARE-BLOB. Marsh marigold. *Caltha palustris*.

The *mare-blobs* are in burnished gold,
 The daisies spread about the green;
 And all is lovely to behold.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

MARES'-TAILS. Long streaky clouds, crossing the sky;

portending high wind. Hence the nautical adage,
 . "Mares'-tails make lofty ships carry low sails."

F.E.A. H.P.

MARK. "He's not up to the *mark*;" not equal to his undertaking, either in health or in intellect.

MARKING. See KEEL.

MARKET-MERRY. Exhilarated by an extra glass; returning home with "a spur in the head, instead of the heel." Hartshorne gives *Market-fresh*, with a similar import.

E.L. H.A.D.

MARKET-STEAD. A market-place. A.-Sax. *stead*, a place.

MARSH-PILEWORT. *Ranunculus ficaria*. See MARCH DAISY.

MARTLEMAS. A corruption of Martinmas, or the feast of St. Martin, 11th November. Agriculturists particularly notice in which point the wind lies on Martlemas eve, believing it will so continue for the two or three following months. They also have a saying, that "If there is ice that will bear a duck before Martlemas, there will be none that will bear a goose all the winter."

G.&P. C.C. E.L.

MARTLEMAS-BEEF. Nares and others describe it as salted beef, hung up to dry at this season of the year, for winter use: but we apply the term to such cattle as have had good pasture through the season, or summer, and will not further improve on grass keep, and are therefore killed about the time of the feast of St. Martin. Palsgrave gives "*Martylmas befe*, brezil."

G.&P. H.P.

MASH-RULE. The instrument used for stirring up the malt and hops in brewing.

MASLIN. } Flour or meal of mixed grain; generally
 MEASLIN. } wheat and rye, as used for bread; an obso-
 MESLIN. } lete term. Bp. Percy notices it, in his MS.
 list of localisms. See Way's Prompt. Parv.
 p. 234.

G.&P. C.C. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

MASTERFUL. Headstrong, stubborn, self-willed. Applied to ungovernable children; as, "You little *masterful* thing!"

C.C. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

MATED. Confused, bewildered. The old woman, whom I heard use this word, said, "When I get into the street at night, I am so *mated*, I hardly know where I be." Nares and others give, *Mate*, to confound, stupify, and subdue; from *Mater*, Fr. of the same meaning. I have never heard this word in any other sense than bewildered; which appears to agree with the following passages in Shakspeare, much better than with the import adopted by Nares.

You are all *mated*, or stark mad.

Com. of Err. v. 1.

My minde she has *mated*, and amazed my sight:
 I thinke, but dare not speak.

Macbeth, v. 1.

MATTER. Used in relation to both number and quantity. "There was a *matter* of a hundred people there." "No great *matters*," no great quantity. "There was a *matter* of six bushels of apples on the tree." Used also in relation to health; as, "I am no great *matters*," *i. e.* nothing to boast of, not very well.

C.C. H.A.D.

MATTY. Matted, twisted, interwoven.

H.A.D.

MAUL. A large hammer, or beetle; a wooden mallet for driving stake-hedges. Lat. *Malleus*. Pynson, "*Malle* or

malyet betyll. *Malliolus*." Palsgrave, "*Mall*, a hammer. *Maillet*." Bp. Kennett's Glossarial Collections, "*Mell*, a wooden sledge or beetle. Bor. Sax. *Mell*, crux, from resemblance in head and shaft to the form of a cross."

. . . . with mighty *mall*

The monster merciless him made to fall.

Faerie Queene, bk. i. c. 8.

M.S. H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To pull about rudely; to handle roughly.

So off they ran, when she came smiling out;

Saying she hated to be *mauled* about.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 156.

3. To toil through CLAGGY and moist land; to drag along wearily, to tire with hard work. "What *mauling* work it is." "I'm welly *mauled* to death."

When he a ploughboy in the fields did *maul*.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 16.

E.L.

4. To draw or tug anything along.

Where, huge baskets *mauling* on,

Maids hung out the clothes to dry.

Ibid. p. 138.

Smarting and sweating 'neath the sultry day,

With muttering curses stung, he *mauls* the heap away.

CLARE'S Rural Life, &c. p. 94.

5. To bruise severely by beating. "He was sadly *mauled*."

Then they *malled* the horses legges.

Bible, 1551. Judges, c. 5.

Another of 'em, a trim cheating souldier,

I'le *maul* that rascal, h' as outbrav'd me twice.

BEAUM. & FL. The Maid's Tragedy, ii.

M.S. B.N.C. H.H. H.S. P.D.

MAUMBLE. A soft, sticky, adhesive mess, is said to be "all of a *maumbl*;" as is moist soil, which clings to the spade in digging.

M.S. "Maamble." F.E.A. H.A.D. "Mamble."

MAUMSEY. A silly, foolish, trifling fellow.

E.L.

MAUMY. Sticky, adhesive, soft, TEARY.

MAUNDER. To mutter, to grumble, or threaten in a low undertone. Jamieson gives, "*Maunder*, to talk incoherently."

. . . . I now shall take my pleasure,
And not my neighbour justice *maunder* at me.

BEAUM. & FL. Rule a Wife, iii. 1.

She *maundered*, in an undertone, complaints and menaces against the absent delinquent.

St. Ronan's Well, vol. i. p. 33.

G.&P. B.N.C. C.C. H.S. P.D. A.W. L.H. E.L.

MAUNGIN. Of similar meaning with the preceding word, but much less frequent. The former word is recognised in the Dictionaries, but this is unnoticed.

MAUNT. Must not.

MAWKIN. See MALKIN.

MAWKISH. Insipid, unsavoury, ungrateful to the palate.

MAWKS. A dirty overgrown slatternly slut. "What a *mawks*!" Bp. Kennett, in his Glossarial Collections, gives the term as so used in Kent.

G.&P. W.C. B.N.C 2nd ed. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

MAW-SKIN. The stomach of a calf, which is salted and dried; portions of it are steeped, as required, for supplying rennet, or (as it is locally termed) RUNNING, for the coagulation of milk, in the process of cheese-making. A.-Sax. *Maga*.

M.S. F.E.A. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

MAY-BLOB. This name pertains both to the WATER-BLOB, *Ranunculus sceleratus*, (With.); and to the LADY-SMOCK, *Cardamine pratensis*. (With.)

MAY-BUG. The small cockchafer, *Scarabæus solstitialis*, (Linn.); so called from generally making its first appearance in May.

G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

MAY-DAY. For the observances on this day, see Appendix.

MAYHAP. Perhaps; a contraction of "It may happen."

H.A.D.

MAYING. "Gone a *maying*." A phrase in rural economy, applied to wheat, that changes yellow in the spring, through ungenial weather. The late President of the Northamptonshire Farming and Grazing Society, observes, "The generality of the crops of wheat look yellow in the month of May; this is called *maying*. If a blade of wheat is pulled up in April, there will be found, at the root, a part of the seed-grain, from which the root is receiving some nourishment; if it is examined in May, it will be found that the whole of the seed has been absorbed, and that the root has then the earth only for its nourishment; thus, being deprived of its parent support, the plant feels its loss for a time, and shows, by the blade looking yellow, that it is not in so vigorous a state as it has been. This is given only as a supposition."—HILLYARD'S Practical Farming and Grazing, p. 95.

—MAZZARD. The head.

M.S.

ME. Myself. "I must get *me* ready to go out."

H.S.

MEADOW. Grass land by the side of a brook, or river; not local perhaps. Ash adopts this meaning, but I am informed it does not prevail in other districts.

MEADOW - CRAKE. The corn-crake, or land-rail. *Rallus crex*. (Linn.)

MEAL. As much milk as a cow yields at one time; thus the morning or the evening meal signifies the milk then obtained. *Two-meal cheese* is made of the night's milk, skimmed, and added to the morning's new milk.

Each shepherd's daughter with her cleanly peale,
Was come a-field to milk the morning's *meale*.

BROWN'S Pastorals, s. iv. p. 99.

W.C. M.S. C.C. B.N.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

MEAL-BREAD. Bread made of wheat ground down altogether, without sifting out the bran.

H.A.D.

MEANS. Independent property. "He lives on his *means*," i. e. not on income derived from trade.

H.H. H.P.

2. "By that *means*." Consequently. "It rain'd, and by that *means* she could'nt come."

MEASLIN. See MASLIN.

MEASLED. (Pronounced "Mezzled.") Mixt fat and lean; commonly applied to meat when the fat and lean are well blended together; a butcher would say, "It's nicely *mezzled* with fat." The flesh of a healthy child is often said to be *mezzled*. A fond nurse often remarks, "The child looks very nicely, it's little flesh is so *mezzled*." Very analogous to MOTTLED.

MEATY. Fleшы, but not fat. "It's a nice profitable piece of beef; it's so *meaty*." Marshal, in his "Rural Economy," gives the word as locally used in Northamptonshire.

G. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

MEBBY. Perhaps, probably; a corrupted contraction of "It may be." Often used with the adjunct *like*; as, "*Mebbylike* I shall goo."

B.N.C. C.C. T.G.

MEDDLE OR MAKE. To interfere with, to intrude into the concerns of others: generally used negatively, as, "He'll neither *meddle nor make*." "We never *meddle or make* with anybody." Well illustrated by Shakspeare.

Well, I have told you enough of this: for my part, I'll not *meddle nor make* no further.

Troilus & Cressida, i. 1.

G.&P. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.P.

MEDLANDS. Meadow-land. A vitiation produced by rapid pronunciation.

MEER. A strip or slip of grass land, which served as a boundary to different properties, or as a division of parishes in open fields. This mode of division is superseded by modern inclosures, and the term has consequently become obsolete; though we have instances of its retention. A grass lane, near Hunsborough Hill in the vicinity of Northampton, which separates the estates of two neighbouring country gentlemen, is called "The Meer" or "*Meer Lane*;" and a similar lane, in an adjoining parish, bears the same name. A.-Sax. *Mæra*, finis. The Prompt. Parv. gives "*Meer*, mark betwene ij. londys;" and Way, amongst other observations on this word, says, "In a decree, t. Hen. VI. relating to Broadway, Worcestershire, printed by Sir Thomas Phillipps, part of the boundaries of Pershore Abbey is described as the *mere dyche*."

G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

MEER-BALK. A BALK left unploughed, for the purpose of denoting a boundary.

F.E.A. "Mara-balk." H.P.

MEER-STONES. Stones set up to mark the division of property, or parishes.

C.C. E.L. H.P.

MEET. Fit, proper. Todd says, "rarely used, except in the North:" common with us.

B.N.C.

MEG. The peg, or mark, which is the object of the player's aim in the game of quoits.

H.S. H.A.D.

MEGRIMS. Foolish fancies, odd whims. "What *megrims* have you got in your head now?" "You've as many *megrims* as a dancing bear." These are common colloquial expressions. "*Emigraneus*, vermis capitis,

Anglicè the *mygryne*, or the hede worme." Ort. Voc. Littleton's Dictionary gives, "The *megrin*, a disease in the head. *Hemicrania vertigo*."

My mind's strange *megrin*, whirling to and fro.

SILVESTER'S *Du Bartas*, p. 565.

H.A.D.

✓ MERELLS or MORRIS. A game, played by two people, on a board, whereon are marked three squares, one within another at equal distances, and connected with each other by a line at each angle, drawn from the inner to the outer square, and again by lines in the middle of each side of the square, the area of which is denominated "the pound." At each intersection of the lines a spot or hole is made; as it is sometimes played with pegs, sometimes with bits of paper, or wood, or stone, according to the resources of the players. Strutt, in his **—** *Sports and Pastimes*, gives a representation of a *Merelle Table* of the 14th century, which coincides with the above description. Cotgrave gives, "Le Jeu des *Merelles*, the boyish game called *Merilla*, or five-pennie *Morris*, played here most commonly with stones, but in France with pawns, or men made of purpose, and tearmed *Merelles*." The mode of playing now observed is this. Each of the players has nine pieces or men, differing in colour or material from his adversary's, for distinction's sake; which they lay down on the spots alternately, one by one, each endeavouring to prevent his opponent from placing three of his pieces in a line, as whichever does so is entitled to take off any one of his antagonist's men where he pleases, without breaking a row of three, which must not be done whilst there is another man on the board. After all the pieces are placed on the board, they are moved alternately backwards or forwards along the lines; and, as often as either of the players succeeds in accomplishing a row of three, he claims one of his

antagonist's men, which is placed in the pound, and he who takes the most pieces wins the game. This amusement was formerly the pastime of the shepherds while tending their flocks in the open fields, and was called *Nine Men's Merrills*, or *Nine Men's Morris*. The squares were rudely cut in the turf with their knives, in a somewhat similar form to those marked on the board; and the game was played with stones or pegs. After a continuance of rainy weather, these squares were filled up with mud; which verifies the allusion made by Shakspeare in the following passage, about which so much has been said by the commentators.

The *nine men's morris* filled up with mud,
And the quaint mazes in the wanton green,
For lack of tread are undistinguishable.

Mid. N.'s Dr. ii. 2.

Or at th' unhappy wags, which let their cattel stray,
At *nine holes* on the heath whilst they together play.

DRAYTON'S Polyolbion, s. xiv. p. 227.

This game also bears the name of *Peg Morris*, as is evidenced by Clare, in speaking of the shepherd boy.

Oft we may track his haunts, where he hath been
To spend the leisure which his toils bestow,
By *nine-peg morris* nicked upon the green.

Rural Muse, p. 119.

Upon the inclosure of open fields, this game was transferred to a board, and continues a fire-side recreation of the agricultural labourer. It is often called by the name of *Mill*, or *Shepherd's Mill*.

MERRY-GO-ROUND. A circular frame, with wooden horses and chairs, made to revolve round a centre pole, and ridden by children for their amusement at holiday fairs.

MERRY-TOTTER. A see-saw; the childish amusement

of riding on the ends of a balanced plank. Well described by Gay:—

Across the fallen oak the plank I laid,
And myself poised against the tott'ring maid ;
High leap'd the plank, adown Buxoma fell, &c.

The antiquity of this pastime is shown by its insertion in Pynson. "*Myry totir*, childis game, *Oscillum*." I suppose that Chaucer alludes to the same, in the following lines:—

What eileth you ? some gay girle (God it wote)
Hath brought you thus on the *merytote*.

Miller's Tale.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

MESLIN. See MASLIN.

MESS. A word that is used with great latitude, in reference either to liquids or solids, to persons or things. The common acceptation appears to be, a measure or portion; but with us it generally expresses quantity or number, as, "I've got a nice *mess* of pears;" "You've got a nice *mess* of porridge;" probably a retention of the scriptural use, as in Benjamin's *mess*, and Esau selling his birthright for a *mess* of pottage. A *mess* of people, a *mess* of sheep, or a *mess* of buildings, signifies a great number; and a heap of rubbish is "a *mess* of MULLOCK."

2. A hodge-podge, or dirty, disagreeable mixture. Any culinary preparation that is unpalatable would be called "a nasty *mess*." When the colours in a drawing are allowed to settle in patches, it would be said "What a *mess* you are making of it!" Metaphorically, things thrown into disorder are said to be in "a strange *mess*;" also to get into a scrape or difficulty, is "to get into a *mess*." Holloway notices this latter use of the word.

3. To crease, to rumple, to soil. When a dress is creased

or soiled, it is commonly said, "How you have *messed* your gown!"

4. To fritter, to scatter. "How you *mess* your money away!" "How you *mess* your things about!"

MESSENGERS. Small floating clouds separated from larger masses: the sure precursors of rain. According to Holloway, called "water dogs" in Norfolk, and "hounds" in Hants.

MESSY. In a creased or disordered state. "How *messy* your gown is!"

METCH. To snuff. An old gentleman said, "The only recommendation the new-fashioned candles had, was, they did not want *metching*." Fr. "*Meiche*, the weeke (or snuff) of a candle." Cotgrave.

METHEGLIN. Usually pronounced *Methegle*. Honey-beer; made, after the pure honey is extracted, of the last crushing of the comb, boiled with water and fermented. When made of honey, as Todd describes, it is the wine called *mead*, with which he has confounded it. Harrison says, in his Description of England, "The Welchmen make no lesse accompt of *Metheglin* than the Greeks did of their ambrosia or nectar." Welsh, *meddyglin*.

Many a cup of *metheglin* have I drank with little starch'd
Johnny Crown. Gent. Mag. (1745.)

MEWSE. An ancient term, still in use, for the beaten track of a hare through a fence. There are numerous references to this term, and illustrations of it, in early writers. See Nares.

Find you without excuse,
And find a hare without a *muse*.

FULLER.

Take a hare without a *muse*,
And a knave without excuse,
And hang them up.

HOWELL'S Eng. Prov.

MICKLE. An old word for much, still retained in the common adage, "Many littles make a *mickle*." A.-Sax. *micel*. Bosworth says, now obsolete, but in use till the fifteenth century.

R.N.C. G.&P. B.N.C. C.C. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

MIDDLE-BAND. The leather that connects the **HAND-STAFF** and **SWINGEL** of a flail: called *mid-cuppil* in Scotland.

H.A.D.

MIDGE. A gnat; a small fly. A.-Sax. *micge*, *myge*.

No insect 'scaped him, from the gaudy plume
Of dazzling butterflies so fine to view,
To the small *midges*, that at evening come,
Like dust spots, dancing o'er the waters blue.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 21.

R.N.C. G.&P. B.N.C. H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

MIFF. An offence. "She's taken *miFF*."

In accomplishing an arrangement between tendencies so opposite, little *miFFs* would occasionally take place.

The Antiquary.

G.&P. J.S. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

MIFFY. Apt to take offence. "She's very *miFFy*;" or, as the phrase sometimes is, "in a **MIFF**."

MIGHTY. Very: as "*mighty* great," *i. e.* very intimate; "*mighty* fine," very smart.

B.N.C.

MILE. Commonly used plurally, as "foot" for feet, and nouns of weight also. "Twenty *mile*." See Harts-horne's *Salopia*.

The space, in sooth, as I suppose is seven *mile*.

CHAUCER, Thebes.

Within these three *mile*, you may see it coming.

Macbeth, v. 5.

C.C.

MILK-BROTH. Grit, or oatmeal gruel, made with milk instead of water.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

MILK-LEAD. A shallow cistern, lined with lead; used in dairies for SETTING milk, as it is termed, in order that the cream may rise.

H.A.D.

MILL, or SHEPHERD'S MILL. A game described under MERELLS.

MILL-HOLM. A small meadow, appurtenant to a water-mill. Ray and Grose give it as a Northern word. See HOLM.

R.N.C. G. H.P. H.A.D.

MILLER. A moth. Probably the ghost-moth, *phalæna humuli*, from the lightness of its colour. Hartshorne, in his *Salopia*, appropriates this name to "the larva of a lepidopterous insect, known in its imago state by the appellation of *vanessa urticæ*," addressed, he says, by children in this distich.

Miller, Miller, blow your horn!

You shall be hanged for stealing corn.

F.E.A. H.S. H.P.

MILLER'S-EYE. "You've put the *miller's eye* out." A general phrase, when any liquid is too much diluted with an excess of water: most frequently applied to weak tea, or any spirituous mixture; also to an exuberance of milk in making a pudding. This peculiar phrase has no reference to the eye of a miller, but probably to that part of the machinery of a mill termed the *mill-eye*, which is the aperture in the upper revolving stone, beneath the hopper, through which the corn passes to be ground. If, through the inattention of the miller, the grain flows too freely into the hopper, and thence fills the *eye* or aperture of the revolving stone, and brings the machine to a stand, the *mill-eye* is stopped or put out; and hence the metaphorical use of the expression in our adage. The Scotch, according to Jamie-

son, have "Drown the *miller*," with a correspondent meaning.

MILLER'S FILLER. "He's always behind hand, like the *Miller's filler*." A common simile, when any one is dilatory in keeping appointments.

MILLER'S-THUMB. A small fish, frequent in brooks; the bull-head. *Cottus Gobio*. (Linn.) The true *Miller's Thumb* is a sea fish, *Gobius niger*, about the same size, and enters the mouths of rivers in the spring. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, gives "*Myllar's thowmbe*, fysz, *Capito*." It also occurs in Palsgrave. Commonly used in Scotland.

I have been seven miles in length along the New River; I have seen a hundred stickle-bags; I don't think but there's gudgeons too; t'will ne'er be a true water.

Cann. Why think you so?

Pompey. I warrant you I told a thousand *miller's thumbs* in it.

BEAUM. & FL. Wit at several Weapons, a. v.

To crop the yellow horseblob's early flower,

Or catch the *miller's thumb*, in summer's sultry hour.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 49.

T.G. H.A.D.

MIMICKING. Weakly, sickly.

L.H. H.A.D.

MINDED. Willed, wished, intended. "I *minded* to go over to Morton." Beaumont and Fletcher furnish an illustration of this use of the word; and Richardson's Dictionary supplies me with another.

While Æneas full *minded* to depart,

All things prepared, slept in the poupe on high.

SURREY'S Virgil, Æneas, book iv.

For I am *minded* to impart my love

To these good people and my friends.

BEAUM. & FL. The Noble Gentlemen.

MING. To mention. An old word. Bp. Percy inserts it in his MS. list of Northamptonshire words.

B.N.C. 2nd. ed. H.A.D.

MINGLE-MANGLE. A medley, a confused mixture. Florio renders *Broglia*, "a confusion, a *mingle-mangle*."

Publishing some botcherly *mingle-mangle* of collections out of others.

HARTLIB, Ref. of Schools, 1642. (Todd's Johnson.)

H.A.D.

— MINIKIN. Small, delicate; most commonly applied to the smallest kind of pin. See Jamieson. *King Lear*—

M.S. H.A.D.

MINNOCKING. Affecting much delicacy; one who apes the manners of her superiors. "A little *minnocking* thing." Probably a corruption of *mimicking*.

MINT (Rhyming to *pint*.) To aim at, to endeavour: a word of rare occurrence with us; but very common in the North. Jamieson gives various examples of its use, from the early Scotch poets.

R.N.C. G.&P. M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. Used metaphorically for a large sum. "He's worth a *mint* o' money."

C.C.

MISCOMFRUMPLE. A word best explained by an example. If one female sits so close to another as to rumple or crease her dress, by pressing or sitting upon it, she is said to *miscomfrumple* it. DISCOMFRUNTLE is a word of similar meaning.

MISSISSING. Assuming the authority, without having the claims, of a mistress. If one of the junior branches of a family interferes in the management of domestic concerns, a servant would say, "I won't have her *mississing* over me."

MISTA'EN. Mistaken.

Unless I have *mista'en* his colours much,
His regiment lies half a mile at least
South from the mighty power of the king.

Rich. III. v. 3.

C.C.

MISTRESS. Often contracted to *Missess*. A sort of title given to the wife of a farmer or little tradesman, when addressing her, or speaking of her. "My *missess*." "Where's the *missess*?"

M.S. H.A.D.

MISWEM. A mistake. "You've made a *miswem*," *i. e.* a blunder in doing something. Probably a vitiation of the old word *Miswend*, to go wrong, which is very analogous to the signification of our word.

MITHER. To muffle up, to smother, to encumber. I have no other authority for this word than Halliwell, who inserts it as belonging to Northamptonshire, and does not name any other locality.

H.A.D.

MIT. Ladies' gloves, long or short, without fingers.

B.N.C. H.H. C.C. H.A.D.

MITTENS. Hedge-cutters' thick WHIT-LEATHER gloves, without separate fingers. Clare adopts the word, and exemplifies its use.

E'en the poor hedger, in the early morn,
Chopping the pattering bushes hung with dew,
Scarce lays his *mittens* on the branching thorn.

Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 55.

Bill and *mittens* lie ye there.

Ibid. vol. ii. p. 55.

Chaucer uses the word proverbially in the "Pardoner's Tale":—

He that his hand wol put in his *mitaine*,
He shal have multiplying of his graine.

From which may be inferred, that you must cut your

hedges low, if you would have an abundant crop of corn. Fr. *Mitaine*.

W.C. B.N.C. E.L. T.G. H.A.D.

MIZMAZE. Confusion.

J.S. H.A.D.

MIZZLE. To rain in small drops, little more than a falling mist. DRIZZLE is synonymous both as a noun and verb, and is much more dialectical than *mizzle*, which is very general.

Now ginnes to *mizzle*, hye we homeward fast.

SPENSER, Shep. Cal., Nov.

H.H. H.S. P.D. H.A.D.

2. To sneak away in a sly, disgraceful manner. "I'll *mizzle* off."

H.A.D.

MOARZE. To burn without flame. The same as MOZE.

MOB. To taunt, to abuse; to scold in low, abusive language. "He *mobbed* her well." Often applied to the noise which small birds make at the sight of a hawk or a cat.

H.A.D.

MOB-CAP. A close cap, coming over the ears, meeting and tying under the chin; rarely seen now, except in our rural villages, on the heads of some few antiquated dames, and by them almost exploded.

H.S. T.G. H.A.D.

MOFFLE. Applied to land in an intermediate state between very wet and very dry. When it clings to the plough, and obstructs its working, a farmer would say, "The land *moffles* so, I can't get on."

2. To waste, to destroy. "He *moffles* all his money away."

3. To do anything in a fumbling manner. See MAFFLING.

H.A.D.

MOFFLED. Wasted in trifles. The following item appears in the accounts of a certain parish, where the

money could not be accounted for: "To *moffled* away, forty pounds."

MOFFLING. See MAFFLING.

MOG. To move; used as a command. "Come *mog* off."

A low word.

C.C. H.S. H.A.D.

MOGUE. To deceive, to cheat. "You shan't *mogue* me."

MOIL. To labour, to toil wearisomely; any one labouring along a dirty road, or overcome with walking on an oppressively hot day, would be said to "go *moiling* and toiling along." Florio renders *Affaticare*, "to labour, to toil, to *moile*."

When as the worldling *moils*, and toyles, and tires.

SYLVESTER'S *Du Bartas*, p. 605.

The rough, rude ploughman, off his fallow grounds,
(That necessary tool of wealth and pride,)

While *moil'd* and sweating by some pasture's side,

Will often stop inquisitive to trace

The opening beauties of a daisy's face.

CLARE'S *Rural Life*, &c. (1820,) p. 136.

C.C. F.E.A. H.S. L.H. H.A.D.

MOITHERED. Puzzled, perplexed, confused; oppressed and bewildered with a multiplicity of work or engagements. "I'm welly *moithered* to death."

R.N.C. "Moyder'd." G. "Moyther." B.N.C. "Moidered."

C.C. "Moider'd." H.H. "Moider." L.H. E.L. H.P. "Moider."

MOLL-BLOBS, or MOLLY-BLOBS. See MARE-BLOBS.

MOLL-HERN, or YERN. The Heron. *Ardea major*. (Linn.)

MOLLIN, or MULLIN. A bridle for husbandry-horses. Nearly obsolete.

MOLLY-COT. A man who is always interfering in domestic arrangements, particularly in the concerns of the kitchen; one who is commonly said to be tied to his wife's apron-strings. "He's always *cotting* about." See COTTING. The Cheshire and Craven Glossarists, and

Todd, give *Cot* in this sense, without the prefix; we, on the contrary, often use the prefix alone, "What a *Molly*!"
 MOLLY-PRANCE. A vitiation of OLY-PRANCE, which see.

MOLLYRAGGING. Low, abusive scolding.

MOLTED. Violently affected by heat; the intensity of *melt*. Forby has both the noun and the participle.

MOLTER. To crumble; as fallow land pulverizes, when exposed to air and frost; it *molters* down, previous to the next ploughing. Moor has *Multa* in the same sense.

MOMMERED. Puzzled, perplexed, bewildered. "He was so *mommered*, he could not speak;" and so Shakspeare uses it.

I wonder in my soul,
 What you could ask me, that I should deny,
 Or stand so *mammering* on.

Othello, iii. 3.

B.N.C. "Mammer." A.W. "Mammered."

— MOMMOCK. A dirty mixture, or mess. "What a *mommock* you're making!" often said to children when messing and mixing their food. "It's all of a *mommock*." The word occurs in Florio, under "*Accattalozzi*, a beggar of scraps, *mammocks*, or broken pieces of meat;" and again under "*Abrano*, by piecemeal, by *mammocks*." Cocker, Kersey, and others, define it "a fragment, piece, or scrap." Todd gives various examples, to which the following may be added:

Salt with thy knife then reach to and take,
 Thy bread cut faire, and no *mammocks* make.

The Schoole of Vertue, n. d. (Halliwell.)

. . . . Where Flodden Hill was strewed

With bodies of his men, welnere to *mammocks* hew'd.

DRAYTON'S Polyolbion, s. xxix. p. 156.

. . . . tear off with my teeth, and grind 'em into *mammocks*.

WYCHERLEY, The Plain Dealer, iv. 1.

J.S. "Mommacks." H.H. F.E.A. H.S. L.H. all give it
 "Mammocks."

MOMMOCK. To maul, and mangle; or cut anything wastefully into small fragments, or shapeless pieces. "Don't *mommock* your meat so." "How you *mommock* your clothes!" is often said to any one who carelessly creases or wrinkles them.

He did so set his teeth, and tear it ;
Oh, I warrant, how he *mammock'd* it.

Coriolanus, i. 3.

M.S. H.S. L.H. H.A.D. "Mommick."

MOMMY, or MUMMY. Bruised to a pulp. "It's all of a *mommy*." Any one beaten very severely, till much bruised, is said to be "beaten to a *mummy*."

H.H. "Mummy." H.A.D.

MON or MUN. Man. Used as an expletive. "You mait (might) as well try to fly, *mun*." A low form of address, often interrogatively. "Wheare are you gooing, *mun*?" *Mon* is pure Saxon.

W.C. F.E.A. C.C. H.S. A.W.

MONEY. The yellow rattle. *Rhinanthus cristagalli*. So called from the rattling of the seeds in the pouch or pod.

MONEY-SPINNER. A small spider. *Aranea scenica*.

H.A.D.

MONKEY. A house that is mortgaged is said to "have the *monkey* on it."

MONKEY. "I've put your *monkey* up," is a phrase implying, I've roused your spirit, or offended you. "I've put up your back," is an equivalent, which see. A child is said to have the *monkey* on its back, when in ill humour, or out of temper; a phrase of identical significance with "STROKE THE BLACK DOG," which see.

MOO. The plaintive cry of a cow.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

MOON. "I know no more nor th' man i' th' *moon*:" i. e. I am totally ignorant of it.

C.C.

MOON. "He would make one believe the *moon's* made of green cheese;" *i. e.* he would make you believe the greatest improbability.

C.C.

MOONS. The corn marigold. *Chrysanthemum segetum*.

MOON-BEAM. "Mild as a *moon-beam*." A common simile for any one who is particularly mild and placid.

MOONING. Musing, contemplating, staring, looking idly about. "How he goes *mooning* along."

MOONLIGHT-FLITTING. Removing goods by moonlight, to evade paying rent. See FLIT.

C.C. "Moon-light-flit." H.S. "Moonshine-flit." E.L.

"Moonshine." H.P.

MOON-SHINE. A mere pretence. "It's all *moonshine*." See BAG OF MOONSHINE.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

MOOT-HALL. A place of meeting for municipal or other public courts. A pure transmission of the A.-Saxon, *mot-heal*; and retained at Daventry till the old MOOR-HALL, or Town-hall, was taken down a few years since. Wiclif makes frequent use of this word, in his version of the Scriptures.

Thanne knyghtis of the presydent, taking Jesu in the *moot-hall*, gaderyd to him alle cumpanye of knyghtis.

WICLIF MS., Matt. xxvii.

Forsothe knyghtis ledde him wt ynne in to the floor of the *mot-halle*, and clepeden to gydre al the cumpanye of knyghtis.

WICLIF MS., Mark xv.

G.&P. B.N.C. C.C. H.

MOP. A yearly assemblage, *after* Michaelmas, of those masters and mistresses who are in want of assistants in farming vocations, and of those servants who remain unhired from the statutes which are held before Michaelmas. It is also made an occasion for a holiday, by servants, before entering upon their new duties. Is the

name of *mop* intended to express the *mopping* up, or clearing away, of those servants who are so unfortunate as to have places to seek after the statute? For the observances and customs of these *mops*, see *STATIS* or *STATEE*, the corrupt pronunciation of *statute*; where they will be treated more at large.

G. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

MOPUSES. Money. "Have you got any *mopuses*?" Halliwell gives "*Mawpuses*," as Lincolnshire.

— **MORAL.** Model, resemblance. "He's the very *moral* of his father." An archaical corruption of *model*, and Nares gives an example of its being so used by an old poet.

Fooles be they that inveigh 'gainst Mahomet,
Who's but a *morral* of love's monarchie.

H. Constr. Decad. iv. sonn. 4.

M.S. B.N.C. H.S. T.G. H.A.D.

MOREISH. Relishing; anything particularly grateful to the palate is said to be *moreish*: so good that you would like more of it.

c.c. "*Morish*." H.A.D. "*Moorish*."

MORRIS-DANCE. An ancient rustic dance, formerly an accompaniment to the Whitsun Ales and May Games; still continued, in some parts of the country, as a Whitsuntide amusement, when different parties go from village to village, performing their various evolutions. A set consists of six or eight young men, one of whom generally represents Maid Marian, or Molly, as she is now degenerately called; another personates the clown, or fool; and the remainder are without their coats and waistcoats, and with the cleanest and best shirts they can procure, gaily bedizened with pendant ribbons and rosettes of various colours; sometimes, as Beaumont and Fletcher describe them in the "*Knight of the Burning Pestle*,"—

With bells on legs, and napkins clean

Unto their shoulders tied ;

With scarfs and garters as you please.

The fool is variously, but always grotesquely, attired, sometimes with a cow's tail at his back, sometimes covered with skins ; and, in the neighbourhood of Brackley, he is called the squire or fool, and has a gridiron and fish drawn on his back. He always carries the usual badge in his hand, an inflated bladder with beans, fastened to a staff about two feet long, or a bladder is attached to one end of a short stick, and a calf's tail at the other. He rattles and beats the bladder about to clear the way for their performance, or plays tricks for the amusement of the company ; Molly carries a ladle in her hand, with which she solicits money from the spectators. The dance consists of a variety of manœuvres, rapid changing of postures, striking first the toe, then the heel on the ground, which occasions great jingling of the bells ; repeatedly clapping their hands, then their knees, and each other's hands. They sometimes dance with sticks, flourishing and brandishing them about ; then placing them on the ground, with the points all meeting in the centre, they dance round them in a circle. This is called *Bedlam Morris*, and is probably a rude perpetuation of the ancient Sword-dance. The set of Morris dancers attendant at the WHITSUN ALE (for a notice of which see Appendix) often consisted of six couple ; they were more gaily attired, and had a larger number of bells, than those above described. They were dressed in scarfs or belts of broad ribbon, one over each shoulder, crossing in the centre, ornamented with bunches of blue and red ribbons, or blue and orange ; five rosettes were placed on the scarf before, and five behind, with one on each hip. Their hats were also decorated with rosettes and streamers of the same coloured ribbons. On their

legs they often had as many as six rows of bells, six in a row, of different sizes graduating from the knee to the ankle. They were attended by a fool, but a piper was substituted for Molly, who had a whistling pipe in his mouth, and a tambourine-drum suspended from his wrist or elbow, upon which he played with a stick. They danced chiefly on their toes with a spring, all keeping time together, and flourishing either handkerchiefs or sticks in their hands. It has been thought desirable to record these vestiges of our popular pastimes the more minutely, as, from the change in the tastes and habits of the people, and the growing refinement of the age, they will soon disappear altogether, and "thereof nought remaines but the memoree."

MORRIS, or NINE MEN'S MORRIS. *See* MERILLS.

MORT. A quantity, a great number. "He's worth a *mort* o' money." "There's a *mort* o' fruit in the garden this year." "There was a *mort* o' people at th' fair." "How do you hold, neighbour?" "I've been deadly bad, but I'm a *mort* better." A low colloquial word; Clare frequently adopts it.

Oft on my hand her magic coin's been struck,
And hoping chink, she talk'd of *morts* of luck.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 123.

God bless us ! there's a *mort* to do,
'Bout princes and 'bout queens.

* * * *

They went ; and such a *mort* of sights,
And such a *mort* of shows ;
They staid till all the lamps and light
Shone in the streets in rows.

* * * *

And there were *morts* of things beside,
I can't think on't to tell.

CLARE'S MS. Poem, The Raree Show.

G.&P. W.C.app. M.S. H.H. F.E.A. H.S. C.S. E.L.

H.P. H.A.D.

MORTAL. Very, great, excessive, abundant. "I'm *mortal*

bad." "It's a *mortal* shame." "There was a *mortal* sight o' people, and a *mortal* deal o' fun."

G. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

MORTAR-SPIT. The board which holds the mortar for supplying the Hawk, which see.

MOSES. "To say *Moses*," is to make a matrimonial offer.

MOST. Used as a superlative pleonasm. "The *most* wretchedest;" "*most* pleasantest;" "*most* wickedest." There are numerous early authorities for its use.

Oh, the *most affablest* creature, Sir ; so merry.

BEN JONSON.

B.N.C. C.C.

MOST-AN-END. See AN-EEND.

MOSTLY. Usually, generally.

L.H. H.A.D.

MOT. A moat.

W.C. H.A.D.

MOTHER. Mouldy or thick concretion on the surface of liquors, particularly vinegar, or stale beer. It is not uncommon to apply the term, when heating elder wine. "It'll soon boil, the *mother* comes up;" very different from ropiness, as stated by Hunter, or from the lees working up, as given by Jamieson. Dryden does not restrict the term to *liquors*, as appears from the subjoined quotation.

Potted fowl, and fish come in so fast,

That e're the first is out the second stinks,

And mouldy *mother* gathers on its brink.

M.S. C.C. H.H.

MOTHERING SUNDAY. Midlent Sunday. Originally so called from the offerings then made at the high altar to the mother Church, but, since the Reformation, the religious ceremony has sunk into the custom of children visiting their natural parents on that day. Hence we have the following couplet,—

On *Mothering Sunday*, above all other,

Every child should dine with its mother

Herrick makes the following allusion to this day:

I'll to thee a simnel bring,
'Gainst thou goest a *mothering*.

This periodical visiting is but partially observed in Northamptonshire; but in Warwickshire the practice of children's assembling at the houses of their parents at this time is very general, so much so that, as furniture is part of the customary repast, a great quantity of prepared wheat is brought to the markets, and provided at the cook-shops for the occasion.

G.&P. H.S. H.P. H.A.D. "Mothering."

MOTHER OF A THOUSAND. The hen-and-chicken daisy.

MOTHERY. Having MOTHER dispersed in small particles over the surface. Dryden, in his Virgil, uses another form of the word.

They 'oint their naked limbs with *mothered* oil.

C.C. A.W. C.S.

MOTTLED. Speckled, of mixed or mingled colours; as, "*mottled* soap," or "*mottled* stockings." The flesh of a healthy child is often said to be "*nicely mottled*." This word is so general that it ought to be in the Dictionaries.

MOT or MOTTY. A mark to pitch or shoot at, in playing at marbles, pitch and hustle, or the game of quoits; so used in Derbyshire, according to Grose and Pegge.

H.S. T.G. H.A.D.

MOUGHT. Pronounced MOTE. - A moth. A good old word. A.-Sax. *Mothe*, *tinea*. "*Mowgte*, cloth wyrme, *tinea*." Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, Harl. MS. 221. "*Mought*, that eateth clothes." Palsgrave.

These wormis, ne these *moughtis*, ne these mites
Upon my parril fret them nevre a dell.

CHAUCER'S Wife of Bath's Prologue.

Tresoure ye to you tresouris in hevene: where neithir ruste ne *moughte* distroieth, where theves delven not out.

WICLIF MS. Matt. vi.

H.S. H.A.D.

MOUGHT. The ancient form of *might*. Todd says obsolete, but it is in frequent use in our rural districts. "He *mought* ha' dun it if he would." Used by Chaucer, Gower, Spenser, and others. See Pegge, p. 111.

And ever my flock was my chiefe care ;
Winter or sommer they *mought* well fare.

SPENSER, Shep. Cal. Feb.

M.S. J.S. H.S. A.W. H.A.D.

MOULD. The opening of the suture of an infant's skull.

MOULDY-BAND. An ant-hill.

MOULDY-WARP. A mole. A.-Sax. *molde*, terra; and *weorþian*, jactare. There are numerous early authorities for this word: see Nares and Todd. Hartshorne gives the subjoined descriptive illustration: "We call in some parts of England a *moule* a *mouldwarp*, which is as much to say, a *cast-earth*; and, when planks or bords are awry, we say they *cast*, or they *warp*." (Versetegan's Restitution of Decaied Intelligence.) To which the following may be added,—

The kight can kil the *mouldiwarp*, in pleasant meads that breeds.

GASCOIGNE, p. 149, sm. 4to. 1587.

In which, like *moldwarps* nouslings, still they lurke,

Unmindfull of chiefe parts of manlinesse.

SPENSER, Astrophel.

Sometime he angers me,

With telling me of the *moldwarp* and the ant.

1 Hen. IV. iii. 1.

G. W.C.app. B.N.C. C.C. H.H. H.S. T.G. "Mondiwarp." H.A.D. "Moldwarp."

MOULTERING. Crumbling. "The mortar comes *moultering* down the chimney." From the verb to MOLTIER.

C.C. "Mouter" H.S. "Mouter."

MOUND. Agriculturally, any kind of hedge or fence dividing lands: an extension of the general definition, "a bank of earth or stone."

H.P. H.A.D.

MOUNT. A large stone hewn into steps; in olden time, frequently fixed at the doors of country public houses, to aid customers in mounting their horses. More commonly called *horse-block*.

B.N.C. T.G. H.A.D.

MOUNTING. Equipping: limited in circulation to the northern part of the county. Halliwell attributes the verb to Northamptonshire.

MOUSE. The strongest muscle in the shoulder of a pig; which, when drawn out quickly from the flitch, makes a squeaking noise; and children often say to the butcher, "Come, let's hear the *mouse* squeak." It is believed that this muscle will not take the salt. In Scotland, the name is given to "the outermost fleshy part of a leg of mutton when dressed; the bulb of flesh in the extremity of the shank." Todd applies the term to "part of a leg of beef, the *mouse-buttock*," and derives it from "*muys*, Teut. a fleshy part."

MOUSE-BUTTOCK. The fleshy piece which is cut out from a round of beef. See the foregoing word Halliwell gives, "*Mouse*, a piece of beef, the part below the round."

MOUSE-TRAP. "Every man to his *mouse-trap*;" *i. e.* every man to his own business, or to the occupation he is accustomed to.

MOUTH. "Don't open your *mouth* so wide;" a phrase signifying, Don't ask such an exorbitant price.

MOUTH. "Down i' th' *mouth*;" dejected, depressed, low-spirited. "In the *DUMPS*," or "in the *FLATS*;" and **DOWN-HEARTED**, are all kindred expressions. Jamieson, in his Supplement, supplies poetical sanction for this vulgar phrase.

I'll nae be laith to sing a song,
But I've been down i' th' *mouth* sae lang.

PICKINS' Poems.

H.A.D.

MOW. A stack; the corn lodged, or housed in the bay, used as the threshing floor of a barn. A.-Sax. *moewe*, *acervus*.

B.N.C. P.D. T.G. H.A.D.

MOWED-UP. Inconveniently crowded with things. "I'm so *mowed up*, I can't stir." Probably derived from the preceding word. Evans gives "*Mowed-out*," as current in Leicestershire in a correspondent sense.

c.c. "*Moved-up*."

MOZE. To burn slowly and dull, without any flame. "The fire *mozed* a long while before it broke out," is a remark often made when a building is burnt.

H.A.D.

MOZY. Stupified with liquor.

2. Shaggy, covered with hair.

F.E.A. H.P.

MOZING. Burning dull. A piece of paper ignited, without flaming, by the falling of a hot ember, is said to lie *mozing*: correlative with *DOMBERING*, which see.

L.H.

2. Standing about, in a dull sleepy state of stupefaction, or listless meditation, without acting. It is often said, "What do you stand *mozing* there for?" A remotely qualified sense of *musings*. Jamieson gives *mozie*, a weak, stupid-looking person.

MUCH. A wonder, something out of the ordinary course.

"It's *much* if it happens." A sceptical expression.

W.C. H.A.D.

MUCH OF A MUCHNESS. Very similar, nearly the same.

W.C. C.C. F.E.A.

MUCKEREN. Miserly, covetous. "A *muckeren* old fellow." Used by Chaucer.

H.P. H.A.D.

MUCKLE-BRED. Low-bred.

MUCKLING. Dirty, slovenly, disorderly. "They live in a *muckling* way."

MUCK-WEED. Pond-weed. *Potomageton crispum*?

MUCK-WORM. A man of mean, penurious, miserly habits.

B.N.C. 2nd ed. H.A.D.

MUCKY. Dirty, filthy, as a farmyard after rain, or the streets in rainy weather. A child makes its hands and clothes *mucky*, by playing in the dirt.

B.N.C. F.E.A. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

MUDDLE. A state of confusion, a litter. "The house is all in a *muddle*."

MUDDLE. To spend inconsiderately or improvidently. "How he *muddles* his money away!"

MUDDLED. Confused, perplexed, bewildered. "I'm quite *muddled*," and "I'm so *be-muddled*," are equally common.

M.S. B.N.C. A.W. H.A.D.

MUDDLE-HEADED, or MUDDY. Confused with liquor; or confused in mind.

C.C.

MUDJENEARING. Building walls of road dirt, or a mixture of clay, rubble, and straw. Moor and Forby give *mudgin*.

MUFFETEE. A small worsted cuff, worn over the wrist.

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.A.D.

MUFFLE-GREENS. Brussels sprouts. See BUFFLE-GREENS and FEATHER-LEGS.

MUG. To supply with beer, to give beer as a bribe. A farmer said to his wife, "Come! *mug* the girls, and they'll get on with their work: *mug* em', Missess, *mug* 'em!" A singular, but perhaps a correct use of the word. Richardson, in his Dictionary, says "*Mug* means merely a wet, sc. a draught of liquor; afterwards applied to a vessel containing liquor." The same may be

inferred from a passage in the Tatler: "There is a *mug-house* near Long Acre."

MUG. "Another double *mug's* broke." A phrase importing that another disaster or misfortune has occurred, or fresh offence is taken.

MUGGY. The white-throat. *Motacilla sylvia*. (Linn.)

B.N.C. H.A.D.

MUGGY. Damp, with warmth; a close, hazy day would be called "a *muggy* day." Used by Lord Byron in his Diary: the term is almost restricted to the weather; but moist, damp hands are also said to be *muggy*. Palmer traces it to the Welsh "*Mwg*, tepidus." Jamieson gives *Mug* and *Muggy* as Scotch words for "drizzling rain, and drizly."

G.&P. H.H. F.E.A. P.D. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

MULDER, or MULTER. To crumble to dust. Corrupted from *moulder*.

F.E.A.

MULL. A blunder, a failure, a mess. "You've made a sad *mull* of it."

H.A.D.

MULLIN. See MOLLIN.

MULLOCK. Dirt, rubbish, refuse sweepings; filth of any kind; dirty disorder. "The house is in a strange *mullock*." A very old word in this sense, but we extend it, metaphorically, to silly, nonsensical talk.

The *mullocke* on an hepe yswepid was,
And on the flore yeast was a canvas ;
And all this *mullocke* in a sive ithrowe,
And sifted and ipluckid many a throwe.

CHAUCER'S Chanon's Yeman's Tale.

R.N.C. G. H.S. L.H. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

MULLOCKY. Dirty, filthy. "A *mullocky* mess," "a *mullocky* place." Sometimes used participially, as, "How the things lie *mullocking* about!"

L.H.

MULLS, (rhyming to *bulls*.) The name by which milk-maids call their cows. The common summons for milking as expressed by our poet Clare, is,

That rural call, "Come *mulls*! Come *mulls*!"
From distant pasture grounds.

I have not met with this word except in Halliwell's Glossary, where it is assigned to Northamptonshire.

No more the milk-maid's evening bawl,
In "Come *null*" tones succeeds.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 50.

And when we sought our cows, I call'd "Come *null*."

Ibid. p. 91.

MULLY. To bellow as a cow.

MULLY-COW. The name used by and to children for a cow. One of the usual persuasives to induce a reluctant child to walk into the fields is, "Come, let us go and see the pretty *mully-cows*."

MULLYCRUSH. To domineer, to hector, to overrule. A servant, complaining of her place, said to an elder sister who was prevailing upon her to stay; "It don't signify what you say, I will leave; you shan't *mully-crush* me." Hartshorne, Holloway, and Halliwell, have *Mollicrush*, in the sense of to bruise, to beat.

MULLYING. Muttering, grumbling. "She goes *mullying* about." Forby has the verb.

MULTER. See **MULDER**.

MUM. Silent; also used as an injunction to silence, or secrecy.

The citizens are *mum*; say not a word.

Rich. III. iii. 1.

H.P.

MUMBLE. To rumple, to wrinkle; as linen that is carelessly compressed into a small compass. "What a *mumble* you're making of your dress!" This sense is unnoticed by the Lexicographers, but in very common use here. **TUMBLE** and **MESS** are provincial correlatives.

MUMCHANCING. Sullenly silent. "Why don't you speak? What do you stand *mumchancing* there for?"

The noun is given, in the Devonshire dialect, for a taciturn person; and Knight, in his edition of Shakspeare, says "*mumchance* expresses the behaviour of one who has nothing to say for himself;" but it is not so much that he has nothing to say for himself, as that he chooses to be *mum*, and will not say anything.

MUMMERS. A set of country clowns, who go about at Christmas performing a dramatic piece. For full particulars see Appendix.

B.N.C. H.H. C.C. H.A.D.

MUMMY. *See* MOMMY.

MUMPER. A beggar, or rather a SPUNGER; an uninvited and unwelcome guest.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

MUMPS. Sulkiness.

H.A.D.

MUMP. To draw in the lips, to screw up the mouth with a smile; expressive of exultation in the possession of some secret intelligence. "She *mumps* up her mouth; she knows *something*."

MUN. The mouth. Germ. *mund*. Exemplified by the common metrical cry in our streets, on Good Friday. *See* HOT-CROSS-BUN DAY.

W.C.app. B.N.C. C.D. H.A.D.

MUN. *See* MON.

B.N.C. F.E.A. C.C. A.W. H.P.

MUN. Must. "I *mun* do't, I suppose." An archaical corruption of *moun*, and *mowen*, which occur frequently in Chaucer and Wiclif. Skinner notices the word as provincial, and it is very common in the North. Brockett derives it from the Isl. *mun*.

And aye ! but I winne that ladyes love,
For dole now I *mun* dye.

PERCY'S Reliques, (ed. 1794) vol. i. p. 43.

Fools *mun*, says he, talk for talk's sake.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 154.

G.&P. W.C. B.N.C. C.C. H.H. H.S. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

MUNCH. To chew, to masticate with labour, like any one deprived of teeth. Hartshorne and others define it simply *to eat*; and we so use it, for it is not uncommon to tell children to "*munch* their dinners up quick." Norman-French, *maunger*.

I could *munch* your good dry oats.

Mid. N. Dream, iv. 1.

A sailor's wife had chesnuts in her lap,
And *mouncht*, and *mouncht*, and *mouncht*.

Macbeth, i. 3.

H.S. P.D. H.A.D.

MUNGEY. Moist, damp, close. A butcher remarked, "The meat won't keep well, we have such *mungey* weather." Akin to MUGGY. The same word prevails in the West, according to Halliwell, for "sultry, hot."

MUNNA. Must not. "He *munna* do't."

H.S.

MUPPED. Crowded, inconvenienced for want of room. An old man said to a lady, "I'm very glad you've moved, Ma'am; you must have been quite *mupped* up in that there other house."

MUNTIN. The perpendicular division of a window; the stone *mullion*.

H.A.D.

MURDERING-PIE. The great ash-coloured shrike, or butcher-bird. *Lanius excubitor*. (Linn.)

B.N.C. H.A.D.

MURK. A secret hoard of money.

MURKING. Saving, penurious, almost miserly. "A *murking* old fellow."

MURRAIN. An expletive implying execration, in allusion to the plague in cattle. "What the *murrain* ails the thing?"

A murrain on't! I took this for silver.

Coriolanus, i. 5.

MUSH. Cautiously silent. Fr. "*Mouchard*, *mouche*. A spy."

C.C. F.E.A. H.H. H.S. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

MUSHED. Subdued, spirit-broken, by harsh treatment; most frequently applied to children. Cattle that dwindle, or lose flesh from some temporary disease, or change to inferior pasture, are said to be *mushed*. Probably a figurative application of the verb *Mush*, to crush, to bruise; which prevails in other dialects.

MUSIC. To "play on the *music*" is a common colloquial vulgarism for playing upon the piano or any other musical instrument.

F.E.A.

MUSK. To send pigs to *musk*, is to turn them out, to glean or pick up the loose or stray corn after harvest, or when a rick is removed. "The pigs *musk* about, and pick up the loose corn."

MUZZY. Stupified with liquor; dull of comprehension.

B.N.C. C.C. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

MY EYE AND BETTY MARTIN. An exclamation expressive of doubt, or disbelief, of any statement or circumstance. "Oh! that's all *my eye and Betty Martin*." Many of our most popular vulgarisms may be traced to some whimsical perversion of language or facts; and it has been supposed that some ancient hymn or prayer to St. Martin, one of the worthies of the Romish Calendar, contains the words "*O mihi beate Martine*," which some one, more prone to punning than praying, has distorted into this prevalent plebeian phrase.

MYSELL, MYSEN. Varied forms of *Myself*.

When she got too far off, why I'd something to tell;

So I sent sighs behind her, and talk'd to *mysell*.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

W.C. B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

N.

NAB. A cant term for the head.

H.A.D.

NAB. To catch by surprise. When overtaking any one who is endeavouring to elude pursuit, it is commonly said, "I've *nabbed* him." Also, to receive unexpected chastisement. "You've *nabbed* it, my lad."

F.E.A. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

NABSY. An abscess.

NAB THE RUST. *See* KNAP THE RUST.

NABBLE. To gnaw, to nibble.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

NACK. *See* KNACK.

NACKLING. Striking one hard substance against another, quickly and gently.

NACKER. *See* KNACKER.

NAGGING-PAIN. *See* KNAGGING-PAIN.

NAIL. To bind, to fix a person to a bargain; as, "I've *nailed* him to it."

H.P. H.A.D.

NAIL-NAPES. A gimlet. Not frequent.

NANNY-CALF. A childish name for a sucking-calf.

NAPPERN. An apron. An archaism.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

NAPPING. Biting, nibbling; applied to sheep biting young sprouts. Probably used for snapping.

2. "To be caught *napping*." A phrase importing to be taken unawares.

You may look pale, but I should blush, I know, to be o'erheard,
or taken *napping* so.

Love's Labour Lost, iv. 3.

Nay, I ta'en you *napping*, gentle love.

Taming of Shrew, iv. 2.

H.A.D.

NAPPY-ALE. This convivial term occurs in a well-known popular song, "O'er a jorum of *nappy*, quite pleasant and happy." And is also adopted by Burns:—

An' whyles twapennie worth o' *nappy*
Can mak the bodies unco happy.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

NARLE. A knot in a tangled skein of silk or thread.
See KNARL.

G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

NARN, or NARUN. Never a one; not one.

A.W. "Nara one." H.A.D.

NARROW. Said of a certain somewhat inebriated expression of the eye. "I thought you'd been some weer, your eye look'd so *narrow*."

NASH, or more commonly NESH. Tender, flimsy, delicate. A good old word, now rarely used: I have heard it said of a sickly child, "It's flesh is so *nesh*, I don't think it will live." A.-Sax. *nesc*. "*Neschyn* or make *nesch*, *mollifico*," occurs in the English and Latin Lexicon of 1440. Harl. MS. 221. *Neische* is found in the Wiclifite version, both of the Old and New Testament; and there are many examples of its usage among our earliest poets. Ray and Grose give it as a North Country word; Skinner remarks that in his time it was common in Worcestershire. See Way's Promptorium, p. 353.

A letter this fole tok ; bad him, for *nesch* or hard,
Thereon suld no man loke, but only Sir Edward.

ROBERT OF BRUNNE, p. 220.

It seemeth for love, his herte is tendre and *nesshe*.

CHAUCER'S Court of Love.

He was to *nesshe*, and she to harde.

GOWER, Con. Am. b. v.

. . . . This but sweats thee

Like a *nesh* nag.

BEAUM. & FL. Bonduca.

R.N.C. G. W.C. "app." B.N.C. C.C. H.H. H.S. A.W.

L.H. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

NASTY. Cross, ill-natured. "She's a *nasty* temper'd thing."

B.N.C. C.C.

'NATION. The superlative degree of goodness or badness. "That's a '*nation* good fellow;" or, "He's a '*nation* bad un." Also used adjectivally for a large assemblage of persons. "A '*nation* sight o' folks."

G.&P. M.S. J.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. P.D. A.W.

H.P. H.A.D.

NATLING. Fanciful, ornamental. "She's always making little *natling* things." This has some affinity to Forby's verbal form of *Nattle*, "To be busy about trifles."

NATURE. Nourishment. "There's no *nature* in it," is often said of unripe or unwholesome food: corresponding with, "There's no *heart* in it."

NATURAL. An idiot. Not local. Often used with a noun. "Why, you're quite a *natural* fool."

H.A.D.

NATTY. Spruce, smart, neat. "A very *natty* little man." Tusser uses the word, and Bishop Kennett gives it amongst his MS. Glossarial Collections.

R.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.A.D.

NAUNTLE. To elevate, to hold yourself erect. Clare, who is my only authority for this word, makes frequent use of it, both verbally and adjectivally.

The daisy *nauntles* up its head.

CLARE'S Rural Life, &c. p. 109.

Not far behind them struts the *nauntly* crow,
And daw, whose head seems powdered o'er with snow.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 29.

And the crow on the grass is boring for roots,
With the jackdaws that *nauntle* among the mole hills
In their gay powdered wigs, and bright yellow bills.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

NAUP. To give a blow on the head: not frequent.

She'l *naupe* and nevel them without a cause,

She'l macke them late their teeth naunt in their hawse.

Yorkshire Dial. p. 68.

NAVE, or NEAVE. See KNAVE.

NAVIES, or NAVVYS. Navigators.

H.A.D.

NAVVY. A canal or navigation.

C.C. H.A.D.

NAY THEN. An interjectional expression of doubt or surprise, and sometimes of remonstrance.

G.&P. B.N.C. C.C.

NAYTURABLE. Natural.

NAY-YEA. A half-silly person, deficient in comprehension. "A poor *nay-yea* thing," i. e. one who can hardly say yes or no to a question.

NEAR. Niggardly, pinching, parsimonious. The same sense prevails in Scotland.

G.&P. F.E.A. L.H. T.G. H.A.D.

NEAR-HAND, or NIGH-HAND. Close at hand; hard by.

The same word in various forms obtains in Scotland; Jamieson furnishes many instances from Scottish poets; and we have ancient and modern authority for our usage.

Of fair greene turfes an altar soone they fayned,

And deckt it all with flowres which they *nigh-hand* obtayned.

SPENSER'S Faerie Queene.

Makyne, the nicht is soft and dry,

The wether warm and fair,

And the greene wod richt *neir-hand* by,

To walk attowre all where.

PERCY'S Reliques, (ed. 1794.) vol. ii. p. 77.

The *near-hand* stubble-field, with mellow glower,
Showed the dimmed blaze of poppies still in flower.

CLARE's Rural Muse, p. 158.

G.&P. B.N.C. H.A.D.

NEAR-HAND, or NIGH-HAND. Used with great latitude through all the gradations of probability, to absolute certainty. "I shall *nigh-hand* call, when I go your way:" I shall most likely call. "I shall *near-hand* finish my work to-morrow:" I fully expect it. "I shall *near-hand* do it:" I shall certainly do it. Sometimes used ironically, as "*Nigh-hand* you will!" *i. e.* You think you will do it, but I will take care you shall not.

C.C. H.A.D.

NEAR-SIGHTED. Short-sighted.

R.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

NEAT. Horned cattle; as Shakspeare has it, in the Winter's Tale. "The steer, the heifer, and the calf, are all called *neat*." Pure Saxon. Only now retained in *neat's tongue*; and *neat's-foot-oil*.

Thanks i'faith; for silence is only commendable

In a *neat's tongue* dry'd, and a maid not vendible.

Mercht. of Venice, i. v.

M.S. H.S.

NEAT. Complete, thorough, finished. Always used in a bad sense, as "He's a *neat* rascal." This signification has escaped our Lexicographers, but is acknowledged by our early dramatists. The Shaksperian commentators have misunderstood the meaning of this word.

By thy leave, my *neat* scoundrel.

BEN JONSON.

Stand, rogue, stand; you *neat* slave, strike.

King Lear, ii. 2.

NEB. The bill or beak of a bird: the nose; or, metaphorically, anything pointed. Unaltered Saxon.

How she holds up the *neb*, the bill, to him.

Winter's Tale, i. 2.

G. M.S. B.N.C. H.H. C.C. C.S. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

NECK. "To *break the neck*" of a thing: to accomplish the most difficult or greater part of any undertaking. "I shall soon finish my work, I've *broke the neck* of it."

NECK-BREAK. Complete ruin. "It's *neck-break* work." Shakspeare uses a transposed form of the word, in the subjoined passage,—

I must
Forsake the court: to do't or no, is certain ruin,
To me a *break-neck*.

Winter's Tale, i. 2.

F.E.A. H.P.

NECK-AND-CROP. Completely, with force. If a person were seized by the collar or throat, and thrown down stairs, it would be said, "He was thrown down stairs *neck and crop*." A pleonastic phrase, CROP being an old term for the claw of a bird.

NECK-AND-HEELS. Nearly synonymous with the foregoing phrase. "He fell over the stile *neck and heels*."

B.N.C. H.P.

NEDDY. A simpleton; generally used reproachfully. "What a *neddy* you *must* be, to do *that*!" Wilbraham has "*An Eddy*, or a *Neddy*, an idiot." Todd gives "*Noddy*, a simpleton, an idiot."

NEDDY. A nickname for a donkey. Brockett, in his second edition, notices the various cognomens of this animal in various parts of the kingdom. *Cuddy*, or *Cuddy Ass* in the North; in Norfolk and Suffolk *Dicky*; in Cheshire *Neddy*; and in other places *Jacky* or *Jack Ass*; to which may be added, in Northamptonshire, *Jenny* for the female ass; and *Jerusalem Pony*.

G.&F. P.D. H.A.D.

NEDDYISH. Silly, foolish.

NEEDLING. A builder's term for perpendicular studding, to part off the acute angle of a roof. Forby gives "*Neele*, a piece of wood put down by the side of a post to strengthen it; a spur."

NE'ER THE NEAR. Never the nigher ; stationary, not progressive.

Better far off, than—near ; be *ne'er the near*.

Richard II., v. 1.

NEEZEN. Nests ; an evident corruption of the Saxon plural. Boys commonly say, "Have you found any *neezen*?" or "Are you going a bird's *neezening*?"

E.L.

NEIGHBOURING. Gossiping amongst neighbours. "I've plenty to do at home, I've no time to go *neighbouring*."

E.L. H.A.D.

NEITHER. Notwithstanding. "I lie in an easier posture, but I'm not easy *neither*."

NEITHER HERE NOR THERE. Not relating to the subject.

NESH. *See* NASH.

NESSSES, or NESTES. Nests.

H.S. H.A.D.

NEST OF DRAWERS. A number of drawers made to fit into a particular place.

NEST-EGG. An egg left in a nest, to entice poultry to continue their occupation of it: metaphorically, the commencement of any secret hoard.

C.C. H.A.D.

NESTLING. The smallest, or weakest bird of a brood ; very similar to the DILLING, which see.

G. B.N.C. H.P.

NETHER. Lower, or under ; as, the *nether* side of a loaf, the under-side, or bottom-crust. A.-Sax. *neather*. Used also to distinguish towns of the same name, as *Nether-Heyford*, *Nether-Benefield*.

Why gnaw you so your *nether lip*?

Othello, v. 2.

G. H.A.D.

NETTLED. Irritated, provoked, vexed. Used also as a neuter verb; "She *nettles up*." See illustration to GLOWER.

I know the man,
And know he has been *nettled* to the quick too ;
I know his nature.

BEAUM. & FL. Double Marriage, a. ii.
Nay mark, how Lewis stamps as he were *nettled*.

3 Henry VI. iii. 3.

He went off more *nettled* at his repulse, than I thought his gayety could admit.

FARQUHAR, The Inconstant, &c. a. iv.

M.S. B.N.C. T.G. H.A.D.

NEVER-A-DEAL. Not much.

H.A.D.

NEVY. Nephew. As Hunter remarks, "the old pronunciation appears to be preserved." In the Anglo-Latin Lexicon of 1440 the word is written "neve."

H.H. H.A.D.

NEWALTY. The old form of *novelty*. "I aint had a bit of pig-meat so long, it's quite a *newalty*."

For witles men, of flying minde and brayne,
Are best pleased with thinges of *neweltie*.

BARCLAY'S Ship of Fooles, p. 67.

With trifles they begin, and so oft time they end ;
Recounting *newelties*, they wast their time therein.

Ibid. p. 283.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

NEW-FANGLED. Made after a new and fantastic fashion.

Lat (no) *newefanglynes* the plesse
Often to remove nor to flyt.

RITSON'S Anc. Pop. Poet. 1791, p. 85.

NEWK, NUKE, NOOK. A corner, an angle; as the chimney-corner, or an angle of a field.

G.&P. B.N.C. H.H. C.C.

NEW-NOTHING. When children are importuning their parents or friends to tell them what fairings they will

bring them from the fair, it is often said in joke, to repress curiosity, "If you'll be good children, I'll bring you all a *new-nothing* to hang on your sleeves," i. e. nothing at all.

NEWT. The water-lizard; a small amphibious reptile, generally found in stagnant waters, and sometimes in old walls. In Hertfordshire and many other places it has the name of *Eft* or *Evvet*.

Newts and blind-worms do no wrong.

Mid. N. Dr. ii. 2.

G.&P.

NEXT-DOOR. Allied, almost equivalent to. "That's *next-door* to a falsehood." A figurative expression.

C.C.

NEXT-WAY. The nearest way.

H.P. H.A.D.

2. Directly, almost immediately. "I'm coming *next-ways*."

E.L. "Next-wizz." H.A.D.

NI! NI! An endearing contraction of good night, addressed to little children.

NIBBS. The small projecting pieces of wood on the shank or SNEATH of a scythe, serving as handles.

T.G. H.A.D.

NIBBLING. Endeavouring to obtain a bargain, by repeated indirect applications and assumed indifference. "I think he'll buy it at last, for he's always *nibbling* at it." A metaphorical use of an angling term.

NICE. Pleasant, agreeable, excellent. "She's a very *nice* person." "We had a very *nice* sermon." A quick, sharp lad, is "a very *nice* boy." Any one dressed very neat and clean, "looks very *nice*." "How *nice* she's dressed."

G. B.N.C. M.S. H.P. H.A.D.

NICE AS NIP. Just the thing; to a nicety. A very common colloquial expression.

NICELY. In good health; improving in health. "Getting on very *nicely*."

B.N.C. T.G. H.A.D.

NICK. To obtain by unfair means, by stratagem. "He *nicked* me out of it."

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

NICK. "The *nick* of time." The very point of time, the lucky moment.

God delivered them at *the very nick of time*, when they were but one remove, one hair's breadth, from destruction.

SOUTH'S Sermons.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

NICK! NICK! If a boy is hard pressed, in any game depending upon activity, such as "One catch all," and perceives his antagonist gaining ground upon him; or if he stops to fasten his shoe, or remedy any other accidental inconvenience, and cries out *Nick! Nick!*, he is entitled to protection, and a temporary suspension of the game. This exclamation had its origin in days of yore, and is evidently a continuation of a practice before the Reformation, when St. Nicholas was considered the tutelary saint of schoolboys. *Nick! Nick!* is therefore an abbreviated invocation to St. Nicholas, the patron saint of children, for protection, and is now used without the most remote idea of its import.

NICK-NACKS, NICK-NACKERIES. See KNICK-KNACKS.

NICK-STICK. A notched stick or tally, generally used in olden time by village bakers, and sometimes little shopkeepers, for keeping accounts; the baker cutting a *nick* in his stick for each loaf delivered, leaving a corresponding one with his customer, to *tally* with his own. This simple mode of reckoning, which was doubtless an humble imitation of the tallies of the Exchequer, is now nearly obsolete; it seems to have been the only method of reckoning known to the Northern nations. Sir Walter

Scott, in the Antiquary, says, Jonathan Oldbuck "was in an unco kippage, when we sent him a book instead o' the *nick-sticks*, whilk, he said, were the true ancient way o' counting between tradesmen and customers."

B.N.C. H.A.D.

NICKER, NIGGER. To neigh as a horse, when corn is shaken in a sieve, to entice him to be caught; also to laugh in a loud ridiculous manner.

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

NICKLED. Beaten down in all directions, and thereby entangled; as growing corn, by violent wind or rain. Correlative with BAFFLED, and SCRAILY.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

NIDGET. A fool. A corruption of *an idiot*.

'Tis a gentle *nidget*, you may play with him as safely as with his bauble.

O. P. The Changeling. (Toone.)

NIFFLE-NAFFLE. To work without making any progress, to trifle.

F.E.A. H.P.

NIFFLING. Trifling, insignificant. "A poor little *niffling* thing." Moor, in addition to our meaning, gives "Whining, unhappy, said of a child." Phillips's World of Wordes has "*Nifle* (old law word), a trifle, a thing of little value." Chaucer and other early poets also use the noun.

G&P. M.S.

NIGGER. See NICKER.

NIGGLE. To spend much time in trifling matters. "How you are *niggling* over your work; it is not worth the time."

Take heed, daughter,

You *niggle* not with your conscience and religion.

Mass. Emp. of the East, v. 3. (Nares.)

M.S. C.C.

2. To haggle meat, to cut it awkwardly.

B.N.C.

NIGGLING. Small, curtailed, diminutive; a suppressed laugh is "a little *niggling* laugh;" a pen, that does not move freely would be called a "*niggling* pen;" and small, ill-formed writing, is "a *niggling* hand." All in common use.

P.D. H.A.D.

2. Cheapening, trying to purchase anything for less than its value. A variation of HIGGLING.

NIGH. To get close to a thing, to touch it.

R.N.C. G. B.N.C. H.P.

NIGH-HAND. See NEAR-HAND.

NIGHTEST-ABOUT. The nearest way.

G.&P. B.N.C. A.W.

NIGHISH. Rather near.

NIGHT-CAP. A glass of spirits and water, before going to bed. In America a second glass is called "a string to tie it with."

NIGHT-CROW. The night-jar. *Caprimulgus Europeanus*. (Linn.)

The owl shriek'd at thy birth, an evil sign ;

The *night-crow* cry'd, aboding luckless time.

3 Henry VI. v. 6.

C.C.

NILLY-WILLY. Undecided, wavering. "She's a poor *nilly-willy* thing; she never knows her own mind." Correspondent with SHILLY-SHALLY. *Nilling* appears to be an old word for unwilling: Minshew gives it.

NIM. The commonly received meaning of this word is, to pilfer, to steal; but the earliest Lexicons give another and totally different interpretation. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon 1440 has "*Nym*, keep or take hede, *Intendo*." Pynson and Wynkyn de Worde give the same, and Halliwell recognizes this signification; which elucidates one

of my earliest reminiscences of a worthy and beloved ancestor; who, when fondly riding his grand-children on his knee, or his foot, always commenced with repeating *Nim! Nim! Nim!* which apparently unmeaning exclamation appears to have been a monitory notice, to take heed and sit firm, before he proceeded to, trot, trot, trot; and with increased speed ended with, gallop te, gallop te, gallop. The same caution is preserved in the old nursery rhyme:—

The ladies go to market *nim, nim, nim*;
 The gentlemen go to market *jim, jim, jim*.
 Then after comes the country clown,
 And brings his horses to the town,
 With a hobbledy gee, hobbledy gee, hobbledy gee,
 Gallop te, gallop te, gallop.

NIMBLE-TAILORS. A field-pea.

NINE-BAUBLE-SQUARE. Anything of an irregular form, an undescribable figure.

NINCUMPOOP. A silly, empty-headed fellow; bordering upon an idiot; Halliwell says, “a person nine times worse than a fool.”

NINE-DAYS'-WONDER. Any piece of news, that creates an excitement disproportionate to its importance. “It will only be a *nine days' wonder*.” This phrase was current in the time of Shakspeare, as the annexed quotation shows.

Glo. That would be *ten days' wonder* at the least.

Clar. That's a day longer than a wonder lasts.

3 Hen. VI. iii. 2.

NINE-HOLES, or TRUNKS. A game played with a long piece of wood or bridge with nine arches cut in it, each arch being marked with a figure over it, from one to nine, in the following rotation:—VII. V. III. I. IX. II. IIII. VI. VIII. Each player has two flattened balls, which he aims to bowl edge-ways under the arches; he scores the

number marked over the arch he bowls through, and he that attains to forty-five first wins the game.

NINE-MEN'S MERRELS. }
NINE-MEN'S MORRIS. } See MERRILLS.

NINETED, or NOINTED. A common term applied to a loose, mischievous boy. "He's a *nineted* one."

W.C. H.S. H.A.D.

NINETING. A severe castigation; generally used as a threat. "You'll get a good *nineting*, young lad." This and the foregoing word are vitiations of *anoint*.

W.C. H.S.

NINETEEN TO THE DOZEN. A common expression, when any one talks too fast. "Your tongue runs *nineteen to the dozen*, there's no getting in a word with you."

NIP, or NIPPER. A stingy, saving, niggardly person. "She's a regular *nipper*." Grose gives it as a Northern term.

C.C. F.E.A. H.P.

NIP. A short steep ascent. "This is a sharp *nip* for the horses."

C.C. H.A.D.

2. A small bit of anything pulverised; as, "a *nip* of salt." As much as can be *nipped* up between the finger and thumb.

3. A bite of an insect, a sharp pinch. "Oh what a *nip* it gave!"

4. To cut or press, as a string that is drawn tight. The verbal uses of this word are various, mostly referable, either literally or figuratively, to the primitive meaning, "to pinch."

H.P.

5. To move nimbly. An active servant "*nips* about;" squirrels "*nip* about the branches of trees."

6. To move off instantaneously; to snatch up hastily. "He *nipped* away in a JIFFEY." "We should have been

caught, if we hadn't *nipped* round the corner." "He *nipped* it away before I could look at it." If a heap of rubbish is spread about untidily, and a master complains; a servant would reply, "I'll *nip* it out of the way directly."

C.C. H.A.D.

7. To be niggardly in domestic economy. "She *nips* very close."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

NIP OUT. To wash partially. If a dress is soiled or splashed in one particular place, and just that part is washed, it is called "*nipping it out*." When it is not convenient to have a large wash, it is usually said, "We must *nip* a few things out;" *i. e.* we must wash a small part of the linen that is dirty. DAB is similarly applied.

NIPPETING, or NIPPETY. Scanty, too small, insignificant; applied to female dress. "What a little *nippeting* bonnet you've got on." "How *nippety* they've made your gown." Jamieson gives *Nippit*, in the same sense.

NIPPING. Parsimonious, sparing, saving, pinching; applied both to edibles and to articles of dress. "What a *nipping* bit of cheese you've given me." "What a little *nipping* sleeve you've got to your gown! I couldn't help it, I was so *nipped* for stuff."

C.C.

NIPT. Bleak, pallid, sickly; the muscles of the face contracted by indisposition, giving a sharpness to the countenance. "The child is not well; how *nipt* it looks!"

A metaphor from the verb "to pinch."

NIRKER. The finishing stroke, the last blow. "That's a *nirker*."

E.L.

NITLE. Sharp, clever, tidy. "A nice *nitle* lad."

G. E.L.

NIVVER. The vulgar pronunciation of *never*. "To-

morrow come *nivver*, when two Sundays meet," is a phrase often used to check the interrogatories of a child as to the time when some promised pleasure is to be realized.

M.S. B.N.C.

NIVVER THE NEAR. Not any nearer. "I've worked all day, and am *nivver the near*."

J.S. P.D.

NOAH'S ARK. Described by Clare, as "a long dark cloud stretching across the heavens, broad in the centre and tapering at each end; resembling the figure of the ark, and supposed to portend great floods." This term has extended into Scotland, according to Jamieson, who remarks, "The prognostic, concerning the state of the weather, is formed from the direction of this ark in the heavens. If it extends from south to north, it is viewed as an indication of good weather; if from east to west, a squall of wind or rain is certainly looked for. Hence the old adage:—

East and wast (west), the sign of a blast;
North and south, the sign of drought."

And as most labourers knowingly pretend
By certain signs to judge the weather right,
As oft from "*Noah's Ark*" great floods descend.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 27.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H..D.

NOB. The head.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

NOBBY, or NOBBLING. A lump of anything, particularly small round pieces of coal. When a fire is getting very low, it is very commonly said, "Bring a few little *nobbles*," or "a few *nobblings*." See KNOBLINGS or KNUBLINGS.

H.A.D.

NOBLE TO NINEPENCE. It is said of a person who is

thoughtless and wasteful in expenditure, "He'll soon bring his *noble to ninepence*."

NOD. "He's gone to the land of *nod*," *i. e.* he's gone to sleep. To "have a little *nod*," is, to have a short sleep, generally in a sitting posture.

C.C. H.A.D.

NODDLE. The head. "What have you got in your *noddle* now?" is a frequent question, when any one is whimsical and fanciful.

Stutch. You say very right, Sir Oliver, very right ;
I have't in my *noddle*, i'faith.

BARRY, Ram-Alley, iv. 1.

Yes, I've dwelt long on idle fancies,
Strange and uncommon as romances,
On future luck my *noddle* dances,
What I would be,

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 14.

M.S.

NODDY. A simpleton. Tusser says,—

Few aftercrop much,
But *nodies* and such.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

NOGGIN. A small drinking-horn. "Give him a *noggin* of ale." Ray in his North Country Words, and others, give, *Noggin*, a little piggin, holding about a pint.

When his worship gave *noggins* of ale,
And the liquor was charming and stout ;
O those were the times to regale,
And we footed it rarely about.

LLOYD. Song in the Capricious Lovers, air iv.

(Richardson.)

G. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A short, thick, irregular piece of anything edible; as a crusty lump of bread. A hungry boy would say, "Give me a good *noggin*." Should a butcher send a small piece of meat, with a heavy bone, we should com-

plain that he had sent such "a *noggin* of bone." "Snoul" is correlative in the East Anglian dialect. We also adopt the same term for small lumps of refuse stone used for fillings, when building a wall. A mason would say, "Bring a few *noggins* to fill in."

NO-GO. A slang term for anything that is impracticable.

H.A.D.

NO GREAT SHAKES. Rather indifferent, not very good, not very well.

NO-HOW. Not at all; sometimes used with a plural termination, as, "I can't do it *no-hows*."

H.A.D.

NOILS. Forby defines it, coarse refuse locks of wool, of which mops are made. Way, in the *Promptorium Parvulorum*, gives "*Nyle*, of wulle (nyl or wyl) *Nullipensa*, plur.;" and in a note observes, "The Latin term given here seems to denote that *Nyle* signifies something of no weight or account; it may possibly denote the light flying particles or flue of wool." Neither of these conjectural definitions is correct: the term is never applied to any kind of wool, in its natural state; but, in the process of combing, the short wool that will not pull out to any length, and is consequently left on the comb, after the *SLITHER* is drawn, is called *Noils*. Halliwell says, by a Statute of James I., no one was permitted to put *noyles* into woollen cloth.

C.C. "Noyls." F.E.A. H.A.D.

NOISE. A scolding; a severe reprimand. A servant would say, "If I go out without leave, my mistress will make such a *noise* at me."

L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

NONCE. Purpose, occasion. "It'll serve for the *nonce*." Moor and Forby both state that it is always used offensively; not so with us. Chaucer and Shakspeare frequently use it

The miller was a stout man for the *nones*,
Full big was he of braun and eke of bones.

CHAUCER'S Cant. Tales.

I have cases of buckram for the *nonce*, to insconce our noted
outer garments.

1 Hen. IV. i. 2.

Such a light and metall'd dance,
Saw you never ;
And they lead men for the *nonce*,
That turn round like grindle-stones.

BEN JONSON.

G. M.S. F.E.A. C.S. H.A.D.

NONE. Not at all. "You'll be *none* too soon, if you go
directly."

F.E.A. H.A.D.

NONPLUSH. A corruption of *non plus*. Used also partici-
pially; as, "I was quite *nonplushed*, I didn't know
what to say, or how to act."

NOODLE. A fool. Also used particiially; as, "What
do you do *noodling* there?"

B.N.C. H.A.D.

NOONY. A fool, a simpleton.

NOONYING. Going about like a simpleton. "He goes
noonying about."

NOPE. The hinder part of the neck, where the head
unites with the vertebræ. A corruption of *nape*.

2. A blow on the head. "Give him a *nope* on the head"

H.H. H.P.

NOR. Than. "Better *nor* ever." "Mine's better *nor*
yourn." A very frequent use of the word.

The gudwyf said, I reid you lat thame ly ;
They had lever sleip, *nor* be in landery.

DUNBAR. Maitland Poems, p. 75. (Jamieson.)

It appears that there are more sorts *nor* one.

King James I., "Demonologie." (Craven Dialect.)

R.N.C. G. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.H. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

NORATING. Chattering, talking over the news of the

town "Don't stand there *norating*." Probably a corruption of *narrating*.

NORRA ONE. Never a one.

J.S. A.W. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

NORTH-CRAWLEY. Awry. "How *North-Crawley* her bonnet stands;" *i. e.* not straight, all on one side. Why we should travel into Buckinghamshire for this phrase, I am quite at a loss to conjecture; those who are better acquainted with the local peculiarities of the parish will perhaps be able to justify its application.

NORTHISH. Over-reaching, grasping.

NO SAY-NAY. No refusal. "You must stay now you're come, I'll have *no say-nay*." Forby, Hunter, and the Craven Dialect, have "*Nay-say*, a refusal."

NO-SENSE. An epithet for an inanimate, ignorant person. "A poor *no-sense* thing." Halliwell says, "a phrase implying worthlessness." With us, it simply expresses listlessness and want of capacity. We also say, when any article is repaired clumsily, "It'll make shift, but it is *no-sense* of a job."

NOSE. Used in various metaphorical senses. "*Nose on the grindstone*." A phrase expressive of binding a person down to his promise or engagement: to keep any one in subjection, or hard at work. "I kept his *nose to the grindstone*, *i. e.* I bound him to his bargain; I kept him close to work." The signification of this phrase varies in other dialects; Brockett, in his second edition, gives "*Nose on the grindstone*, a simile for the fate of an improvident person;" he also says, "Hunter informs me that in Hallamshire *nose to the grindstone* is differently used, being said of those who are deeply humbled by an adversary." Halliwell explains it, "to be depressed." Jamieson has it, "to keep one's *neb at the grunstone*, to keep one under, or at hard work."

2. Nose of wax. An archaical simile denoting pliability, mutability; particularly applied to religious faith.

Hereunto they adde also a similitude not very agreeable, how the Scriptures be like to a *nose of waxe* (*nasus cereus*) or a ship-man's hose: how thei may be fashioned and plied al manner of waies, and serve al menues turnes.

JEWELL. The Defence of the Apologie, p. 464. [1567.]

(Richardson.)

As there's no right nor custom that can show it,

But I can soon conform myself unto it;

Yea of my faith a *nose of wax* I make,

Though all I do seems done for conscience' sake.

Honest Ghost, p. 225. (Nares.)

Nares remarks, that "the similitude was originally borrowed from the Roman Catholic writers, who applied it to the Holy Scriptures on account of their being liable to various interpretations; which was their argument for taking the use of them from the people."

H.A.D.

3. "As plain as the *nose* in your face." Quite clear, quite palpable.

It's as plain as the *nose in your face* for to see't.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 157.

C.C. H.A.D.

4. "Led by the *nose*." Acting under the influence of another.

H.A.D.

5. "To put one's *nose* out of joint." See JOINT.

6. "To cut off your *nose*, to be revenged of your face." To be revenged on your neighbour at your own expense.

H.A.D.

7. "To pay through the *nose*." To give an exorbitant price for any article, in consideration of long credit.

H.A.D.

8. "To poke your *nose* into every thing." To pry into other people's concerns; to be intermeddling.

9. "To turn up your *nose*." To ridicule; to be contemptuous.

NOTHER (rhyming to *Bother*.) Neither. "I wont ha' *nother* on 'um." A.-Sax. *Nouther*.

H.A.D.

NOTRIFIED. Noted. "He's a very *notrified* singer."

NOTTOMY. A skeleton. "Wasted to a *nottomy*," i. e. mere skin and bone. Corrupted from *anatomy*.

J.S. M.S. B.N.C.

NOUSE. Quickness of perception, tact, acuteness. "He has a great deal of *nouse* about him." Moor says, pure Greek as well as pure Suffolk. Brockett deduces it from Lat. *noscere*.

Oh aid, as lofty Homer says, my *nouse*,
To sing sublime the Monarch and the louse.

PETER PINDAR.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

NOUT, NOWT. Nothing. "It all means *nout*." "I know *nowt* about it." "He's *nowt* to me," he is no relation of mine. Archaisms rather than vulgarisms.

That feith without fet ys febelere than *nouht*,
And ded as a dore nayle.

P. PLOU. 2 pass. (Craven Dialect.)

Ga hethene away fra me, quod he, for thou canne say *noghte* to mee, ne I hafe *noghte* at do with the.

MS. Lincoln, a. i. 17. f. i.

B.N.C. C.C. E.L. T.G.

NO-WAYS. Similar to *no-hows*. Not at all.

H.A.D.

NOW! NOW! NOW! An alliterative interjection, commanding silence. This recalls to my remembrance a governess who, when her pupils took advantage of her temporary absence to chatter and raise a clamour, always entered the room holding up her fore-finger, and crying out *Now! now! now!* which immediately restored silence and good order.

NOZZLE. The nose: the expanding rim at the top of a

candlestick : the end of a bellows-pipe. A.-Sax. *Nosle*.

H.A.D.

NUB. A knob, a small projection. "A *nub* of a loaf," a crusty corner. "A *nub* of coal."

H.S. L.H.

2. A gentle push; nearly synonymous with NUDGE, which see.

H.P.

3. To jog, to shake.

C.C.

NUBBLE. To double up your fingers, and press them down with the thumb. "*Nubble* your fist."

NUBBLY. Lumpy, abounding in small protuberances; as rough greensward roads.

H.P.

NUDDLE. To nestle, to fondle; as when a child lays its head on the bosom of the nurse. It also imports to hang down the head, elevating the shoulders, so as to contract the neck, when walking. "How he goes *nuddling* along." The former sense is synonymous with NUZZLE; the latter with NUDGE or SNUDGE.

F.E.A. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

NUDGE or SNUDGE. To hold down the head, as described under NUDDLE.

C.C. H.P.

2. A gentle and secret push with the elbow or foot, to call the attention of a next neighbour to something that is passing, when you do not wish to speak openly. HUB and NUB are both correspondent terms.

M.S. B.N.C. W.C. C.C. H.H. "Knudge." P.D. C.S.

L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

NUM, NUMBY. Clumsy, benumbed by frost. A.-Sax. *benum*, stupefactus.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

NUMPS. A dolt, a fool.

H.A.D.

NUNCH, NUNCHION. The intermediate refreshment between breakfast and dinner; corresponding with **LUNCH** and **LUNCHEON**, and contradistinguished to the afternoon repast, called **FOUR O'CLOCK**.

Laying by their swords and truncheons,
They took their breakfast or their *nunchions*.

HUDIBRAS.

M.S. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

NUNTING. Curtailed in dimensions, so as to have an appearance of scantiness and meanness; applied almost exclusively to articles of female dress, more particularly to a cap or a bonnet. A small unbecoming bonnet would be called "a *nunting* little thing." Cooper's *Sussex* has "NUNTING, awkward looking;" which is a modification of our use of the term.

C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

NUNTY. Old-fashioned, shabby, scanty; of similar import and application to the preceding word.

F.E.A. B.N.C.2nd ed. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

NURLED. Twisted. Hartshorne says, "a goldsmith's term." The Craven dialect gives "NURL, a knot;" and we have **KNARL**, a knot in wood, of which our word is probably a variation; or it may be from **SNARL**, which we apply to silk, or thread, that is hard twisted, and curls into knots when being wound.

C.C. H.S.

NURLY. Ill-tempered; a metaphorical use of the preceding word.

H.S. H.A.D.

NURSE. To fondle, to pay great attention to any one from interested motives. "She's *nursing* the old gentleman up, with the hope of getting his money." "She *nurses* him up well."

NUT-STEMBLES. The shoots from the stock of a hazle-bush or nut-tree, after it has been cut down.

NUZZLE. To creep closely, or snugly, as an infant in the bosom of its nurse or mother: identical with

NUDDLE. Shakspeare and Spenser write it *nousle*.

Those mothers who, to *nousle* up their babes,

Thought nought too curious, are ready now,

To eat those little darlings whom they loved.

Pericles, i. 4.

She [Wisdom] *nuzzleth* herself in his bosom, cherisheth his soul.

STAFFORD'S Niobe. [1611.] (Todd)

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

NUZZLER. A square of flannel for covering or wrapping round an infant, till it attains sufficient strength to be carried upright.

O.

O. The vowels *o* and *a* are often interchangeable, as *catch*, *catch*, *starmy*, *stormy*, *ony*, *any*, *tromple*, *trample*, *crap*, *crop*, and many others. O has the sound of short *u*, in the imperfect tenses of some verbs ending in *ive*; as *struv*, *strove*, *druv*, *drove*. O is also an abbreviation of *of*.

No tears but *o'* my shedding.

Merchant of Venice, iii. 1.

C.C. H.A.D.

OAK-APPLE-DAY. The 29th of May. On this day it was formerly the custom for all the principal families in the town of Northampton to place a large branch of oak over the door of their houses, or in their balconies, in remembrance of the restoration of Charles the Second. The oak-boughs are gradually disappearing; but the corporate body still goes in procession to All

Saints' church, accompanied by the boys and girls of the different charity schools, each of them having a sprig of oak, with a gilt *oak-apple* placed in the front of their dress; and, should the season be unpropitious, and oak-apples be scarce, small gilded potatoes are substituted. The commemoration of this day has probably been more generally and loyally observed in this town than in many other places, from a feeling of gratitude to that monarch, who munificently contributed 1000 tons of timber out of Whittlewood Forest, and remitted the duty of chimney-money in Northampton, for seven years, toward the rebuilding of the town after the destructive fire in 1675. The statue of the King, which is placed in the centre of the balustrade on the portico of All Saints' church, is always enveloped in oak-boughs on this day. Some villagers in the country notice the day, by decorating their houses with branches of oak, or by children carrying them about in their hands.

H.A.D.

OBLIGATED. Obliged. "I was *obligated* to go."

B.N.C. L.H. H.A.D.

OBSTROPULOUS. Turbulent, unruly, resisting controul. The following illustration is borrowed from Brockett.

Then rough-hewn tar,
Who sail'd had far,
Cries out, My lads! give o'er,
Since, body of me!
You can't agree,
Cease such *obstrop'lous* roar!

Benwell Village.

M.S. B.N.C. J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

OCCASIONING. When trade is flat, and a shoemaker's master cannot give him full work, he goes about *occasioning*, i. e. he takes a specimen of his work, and ap-

plies to other masters for occasional or temporary employment.

OCEANS. An abundance, a multitude. Always used plurally. "He's got *oceans* of money." "There were *oceans* of people." If a person in pouring any liquid into a vessel is exceeding the quantity required, he is sometimes checked by the sudden exclamation, "Stop! there's *oceans*!" A mistress complaining to her cook that the gooseberries in a pie were not sufficiently baked, she replied, "Oh! ma'am, they were *oceans* done."

OD. If this prefix to various moderated imprecations and exclamations be, as suggested by the Craven Glossarist, "an abbreviation of *God*, which too frequently enters into those low, fancied ornaments in conversation which by vulgar coxcombs are thoughtlessly, if not profanely, substituted for an oath;" it is sufficient to class them together under one article, *Ods-bobs*; *Od-rabbit it*; *Od-rot it*, &c.

M.S. J.S. B.N.C. C.C. P.D.

ODDS. "At *odds*:" at variance, not friendly. "They're quite at *odds*."

Fell all at *ods*, and fought through fury fierce and bold.

SPENSER.

By day and night he wrongs me ; every hour
He flushes into one gross crime or other,
That sets us all at *odds*.

Lear, i. 3.

C.C.

2. Difference. "No *odds*:" of no importance, no consequence. "It makes no *odds*."

L.H.

ODD-CUM-SHORT-LUMS. } Odd fragments, made up
ODD-COME-SHORTS. . } of different materials.

H.A.D.

ODDS AND ENDS. Scraps, remnants; frequently discarded fragments, but not necessarily so. Nearly sy-

nonymous with the preceding word, and with ODDMENTS. Exemplified in Tim Bobbin:

'Twas Thursday last, when I John Goose-quill
Went for some *ods and ends* to Rochdale.

C.C. H.H. F.E.A.

ODLING. One differing from the rest of a family, brood, or litter; generally applied to the smallest, or to one with any peculiarity. Of near affinity with DILLING, which see, for observations on the termination *ling*. *Odling* is in general circulation with us; but the only notice I find of it is in Nares, who says, "The meaning of this word has not been discovered, though it must have some relation to tricking and cheating. It occurs only in Ben Jonson's description of the character of Shift, prefixed to his *Every Man out of his Humour*. He describes him as,

"A thread-bare shark; one that never was a soldier, yet lives upon lendings. His profession is skeldering and *odling*; his bank Paul's, and his warehouse Piet-hatch."

Nares also remarks, "Mr. Gifford says, 'Of *odling* I can say nothing with certainty, having never met with the word elsewhere.'"

ODDMENTS. Scraps, DRIBLETS, things of little value; very much the same as ODDS AND ENDS, except that it is applied also to the payment of a debt by instalments. If a person owes a larger sum than it is convenient to pay at once, and gives little sums on account, he is said to pay his debt off "by *oddmments*."

B.N.C. J.S. C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

O'ER-LAP. A HILLYER's term when one row of slates, or tiles, laps or folds over the row beneath.

c.c. "Ower-lap."

O'ER-TANE. Overtaken. "I was *o'ertane* by the storm."

c.c. "Ower-tane."

2. Unexpectedly overpowered, with any inebriating

liquor. "The beer was so strong, I was *o'ertane* before I was awar on't."

H.A.D.

O'ERWART. } Across, opposite. A.-Sax. *Thweorh*.
OVERWART. } "Overthwartly, parversement," Pals-
OVERTHWART. } grave. Chaucer and Wiclif use it.

We apply it variously; as, "He lives *o'erwart* the way."
"The gooseberry trees shoot so *overwart*, the gardener is obliged to cut a great deal of the wood away." To plough at right angles to the former furrows, is "to plough *overthwart*."

For she ne looked but awrie,
Or *overthwart*, all baggingly.

CHAUCER, *Romant of the Rose*.

As they ryde talkynge
A rach ther come flyngynge,
Overtwert the way.

Lybeaus Disconus. RITSON, vol. ii.

We whisper, for fear our *overthwart* neighbours should hear us, and betray us to the government.

DRYDEN.

M.S. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

OF. ON. These prepositions are used interchangeably, as, "There were four *on* us." "Both *on* 'em went." "Call *of* him to-morrow." There are many instances, in the time of Shakspeare, in which the preposition *of* was used for *on*.

How shall I feast him? what bestow *of* him."

Twelfth Night, iii. 4.

2. From. A very common substitution. "I bought the fowls *of* the butter woman."

M.S. C.C. E.L. H.A.D.

3. Used unnecessarily, and redundantly. "Take your hands off *of* the table." "He bought his horse off *of* a farmer." "He's always a teasing *of* the dog."

M.S.

4. For, before. "I can't go *of* a week."

E.L.

OFF. A term applied in relation to pecuniary circumstances. "He is badly *off*;" or, "He is very well *off*." "Do you know how the children are *off*?" is a common inquiry after the death of a parent.

H.A.D.

OFF AND ON, or OFF NOR ON. Changeable, undecided. "They're *off and on*, sometimes friends, and sometimes not." "Neither *off nor on*," SHILLY-SHAL-LYING, not knowing their own minds.

OFF-HAND. *See* HAND.

OFF HIS HEAD. *See* HEAD.

OFF THE HOOKS. *See* HOOKS.

OFFER-UP. To try any manufactured article, with the view of ascertaining whether it will answer its intended purpose. Sir Henry Dryden, to whom I am indebted for this phrase, informs me that it is commonly used in this sense, in his neighbourhood: one of his workmen said, "Shall I *offer up*, or *offer on*, that frame, to see if it will fit the picture?"

OFFICES. The rooms on the ground floor, or basement story, of a large house or mansion, which are appropriated to the use of the servants; also the out-buildings belonging to the same, such as stables, coach-house, brewhouse, &c. It is not uncommon, in advertisements for the sale of a house, to add in recommendation that "there are convenient and suitable *out-offices*." This very common word appears to have escaped our lexicographers. *See* Nares.

H.A.D.

OFFLING. A feeble shuffling gait. "See how that poor man goes *offling* along, he won't be here long." Frequent in the neighbourhood of Peterborough.

OIL OF HAZEL. *See* HAZEL OIL.

OILY. Disposed to flatter, and make smooth speeches. Adulatory. SOFT SOAP is used with a correspondent signification.

C.C. H.A.D.

- OLD. The common pronunciation of *Wold*, as may be instanced in the village of *Wold*, which is generally so corrupted; as also *Orlingbury Wold*, and *Yardley Wold*; the latter of which has the following rhyme connected with it:—

The wind blows cold
Upon *Yardley Old*.

Both the quarto and folio editions of Shakspeare have *Old*, for *Wold*, in *King Lear*, iii. 4; and Spelman writes *Burton upon Olds*, which proves this orthography to be archaic rather than vulgar.

- ✧ OLD. Great, abundant. *Old* was a very common augmentative in the time of Shakspeare and his contemporaries. With us it is expressive of great sport, or feasting, a superabundant display of hospitality, such as was provided in “olden time.” “There was *old doings* at the wedding.” For remarks on this use of the word, see Pegge, p. 97.

Sunday at masse there was *old* ringing of bells, &c.

TARLTON'S News out of Purgatory. (Toone.)

Yonder's *old* coil at home.

Much Ado about Nothing, v. 2.

There have been *old* doings there, i' faith.

DRYDEN'S Troil. & Cress.

G. W.C.app. B.N.C. H.H. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

OLD-CHRISTMAS DAY.

OLD-LADY DAY.

OLD-MICHAELMAS DAY.

OLD-MIDSUMMER DAY.

} The quarter-days, as
reckoned by the *old* style.

H.A.D.

OLD-HAND. A knowing, experienced old fellow.

OLD-MAID. A large pincushion, made heavy with lead, for the convenience of pinning work to.

OLD MAN. Southernwood. See LAD'S LOVE.

W.C.app. H.A.D.

OLD MAN'S BEARD. Traveller's joy. *Clematis Vitalba*.

The name is more commonly applied to the plant when in seed in winter, from its white hoary appearance.

And *old man's beard*, that wreath'd along the hedge

Its oddly-rude, misshapen tawny flowers,

And prickly burs that crowd the leaves of sedge,

Have claim'd my pleasing search for hours and hours.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 134.

Just where the *old man's beard* all wildly trails

Rude arbours o'er the road, and stops the way.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 31.

OLD NICK.

OLD HARRY.

OLD SCRATCH.

OLD GENTLEMAN.

} All very general synonymes for
his Satanic Majesty.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

OLD RAG. The name given by quarry-men to the limestone of the Fuller's Earth formation. See KICHEL.

OLD SALLY. A hare, whether old or young.

H.A.D. "Old Sarah."

OLD SHOE. It is considered propitiatory of good luck to throw an *old shoe* after any one, who it is wished may succeed in the undertaking he is going about. This popular superstition is still practised by the vulgar, and is of some antiquity, as it is noticed by our early dramatists.

Now for good lucke, cast an *old sho* after me.

J. HEYWOODE. (1598.)

Farewell, and fling an *old shoe*. How my heart throbs?

BEAUM. & FL. Wild Goose Chase, ii. 1.

G. M.S. B.N.C. C.C. "T'oud shoe."

OLD SONG. A trifle. "You may buy it for an *old song*," is often said of an unsaleable article.

H.A.D.

OLD SOWS. Woodlice, Millepedes. The species which roll up on being touched, and, if swallowed in that state, are believed to possess the medicinal virtue of curing the ague. Sometimes called PIGS and TIGGY-HOGS. See "Sow," Forby.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

OLD STAGER. One well versed in anything. "He's an *old stager*, he's had plenty of experience."

H.A.D.

OLD STICK. An epithet for an eccentric, unaccommodating, unneighbourly old man; to which "queer" is often added. "He's a *queer old stick*." Quite the reverse of Halliwell's definition, "A complimentary mode of address to an old man, signifying he is a capital fellow."

H.A.D.

OLLAS. Always; of which it is evidently a corruption. See Craven Dialect.

OLY-PRANCE. A merry-making. It is not uncommon, after great feasting and rude mirth, to say, "There was fine *oly-prancing doings*." When a party of young people go out gipsying or gathering violets, and have been very merry, and have had a day of great enjoyment, they will return home, and say "We've had a nice *oly prance*." This word is noticed by Grose, in the second edition of his Provincial Glossary, and is the only one assigned to Northamptonshire: he defines it, "rude boisterous merriment, a romping match." Holloway gives the word with Grose's definition, without acknowledgment; and Halliwell copies Holloway, and adds the following authority for its ancient usage, which however does not accord with our meaning.

Of rich atire is ther avaunce
Prickkand ther hors with *olyprauunce*.

R. DE BRUNNE, MS. Bowes, p. 64.

I find no other notice of this word but in Jamieson, who has "*Oly, oly-prance, jollity*;" which meaning he has adopted from our signification, as explanatory of the following passage—

Than thai to the taverne house
With mickle *oly-prauunce*.

Peblis to the Play, st. 10.

Pinkerton, in a note to *Select Scottish Ballads*, ii. 168, says, "*Oly-prance* is a word still used by the vulgar in Northamptonshire;" and Jamieson asks, "Can this term have any affinity to Isl. *ol*. Sw. *oel*, a feast?" He further observes, "were it not for the use of this phrase in England, from the preceding description I would be inclined to view *prance* as a verb, and to explain *oly*, ridicule, derision, from A.-S. *oll*, ignominy, reproach. We sometimes call it *Molly-prance*. Is this a corruption, or the primitive form?"

G. H.P. H.A.D.

OMMOST. The corrupt pronounciation of *almost*.

W.C. C.C. H.S. H.A.D.

OMNIUM-GATHERUM. Something of every thing; a medley of persons or things. Jamieson recognises the word, and supplies the following illustration,—

Than he packs up an army of vile scums;
Full fifteen thousand, cursed rogues indeed,
Of *omne-gatherums* after him does lead.

HAMILTON'S Wallace, p. 147

H.P. H.A.D.

OMPERLOGIES. Obstacles, difficulties. A countryman one day said to the steward of a neighbouring nobleman, "I couldn't get on with him, he made so many *omperlogies*," i. e. he started so many difficulties, he was not willing to undertake the work.

OMY. Mellow. The application of this term is, I believe, restricted to land; Ray, Grose, Brockett, and Bp. Kennett's MS. Glossary notice it as a word used in the North. Phillips and Kersey give the compound *omy-land*, as a country word for mellow land. Jamieson, under "OAM, steam, vapour arising from any thing hot," remarks, "this is probably the source of A. Bor. *omy*, mellow, applied to land." But may it not with more probability be an aphæresis of *loamy*?

R.N.C. G. B.N.C. H.P. H.A.D.

ON. Is used for of, before pronouns; examples may be seen under OF, with which it is interchangeable.

G.&P. M.S. H.H. C.C. L.H. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

2. When it is the initial syllable, it is often substituted for *un*, as is shown in the following words: *onbearable*, *ondeniable*, *ongain*, *onpossible*, *ontoward*, *on-tye*. Harts-horne observes that *un*, in words of pure Saxon origin, is not incorrectly so used. Prompt. Parv. has *onclene*, *onhappy*, &c. and Palsgrave, "I come to a man's place *onlooked* for, *onbidden*, *onwelcome*, as a malapert felowe dothe."

H.S.

3. In. "The roses are all *on* flower."

4. "A little *on*;" approaching intoxication.

G.&P. H.A.D.

ONBARE. To uncover; to remove the surface soil, previously to the opening of a stone pit, or quarry. Cognate with ABATE.

H.S. H.A.D.

ONBEKNOWN. Unknown. "If it was so, it was *onbe-known* to me."

ONE. "To be *at one* again." To be reconciled.

Nor have we been *at one* for many years.

Tales of the Crusaders.

C.C. H.A.D.

ONE HOW OR OTHER. In one way or another.

E.L.

ON-EMPTY. To unload, to empty. "*On-empty* that cart directly."

ONE SHEAR SHEEP. A sheep between one and two years old. *See* SHEEP.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

ONGIVE. To thaw. *See* the correlatives, GIVE, FORGIVE, FRET, and UNGIVE.

ON-GOINGS. Conduct, doings, merriment. Used in the neighbourhood of Peterborough. We often transpose it, and say, "*There was fine goings on.*"

B.N.C.

ONLIGHT. To alight.

J.S.

ON'T. A contraction for *of it*. "*There's an end on't.*"

The loss the gain, the ordering *on't*, is all properly ours.

Winter's Tale, ii. 1.

C.C.

ONY. Any. Used by Wiclif in the New Testament.

Neither *ony* man schal here his voice in stretes.

Mat. xii.

He commaundede hem, that they shulden not take *ony* thing in the weye, but a yerde only.

Mark, vi.

To no man owe ghe *ony* thing.

Romans, xiii.

C.C. T.G.

ONY HOW. In any manner, any way, under any circumstances. "*I can't ony how cum yetns.*"

B.N.C. C.C. T.G.

ONTO. Upon. "*Sit onto* the chair."

C.C. F.E.A. H.H. H.P.

OOL. Will.

J.S.

2. Wool. Pronounced with a lengthened drawl.

B.N.C.

OPEN. When there is neither frost nor snow, but mild weather in winter, it is said to be "fine *open* weather." Not particularly dialectical.

C.C. "Oppen." H.A.D.

OPINIATED. Self-confident, firm in maintaining an opinion. A corruption of *opinionated*.

ORATION. A public talk, a noisy rumour. "The rogues would have been taken, if there had not been such an *oration* about it." See NORATION.

H.A.D.

ORCHARD. "Giving an apple where there's an *orchard*," is a phrase often used when a present is made to a person whose circumstances do not require it. "Sending coals to Newcastle" is an analogous phrase.

Old Fortune, like sly Farmer Dapple,
Where there's an *orchard*, flings an apple.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 114.

ORGANS. This plural form was usual in early times, and is not entirely disused now. "Come, play upon the *organs*!" Pegge says, "What we now call an *organ*, was formerly styled the *organs*; and, so low as the last century, a *pair of organs*." Forby, in noticing this old plural, says, "Wherein the parity consists has indeed never been explained; but no body scruples to talk of a pair of stairs, which is full as absurd."

ORNARY. Ordinary, shabby, mean, as applied to every-day apparel; plain, common, as applied to cakes, or puddings. An hospitable dame, at a country feast, would say, "Come, take a bit of cake, you needn't be afraid on't, its very *ornary*:" *i. e.* the ingredients are

plain, not rich. An "*ornary* person" is one plain in feature.

C.C. L.H. H.A.D.

OR'RA ONE. Any one.

J.S.add. H.P.

ORTS, or ORTINGS. This word is never used in the singular with us, though there are examples of its being so used in Shakspeare. It is a common provincialism all over the kingdom, but it is used with greater latitude in some places than others. We confine it to edible fragments, left on the plate at meal times: when a child is supplied too abundantly, it is commonly said, "Come, clear up your plate; who, do you think, will like to eat up your *orts*?" For conjectures on the etymology of this word, see Jamieson's Dictionary and Hartshorne's Salopia. Ray has the proverb—"Evening *orts* are good morning fodder."

A barren-spirited fellow, one that feeds on abject *orts*.

Jul. Cæs. iv. 1.

Thou son of crumbs and *orts*.

B. JONSON'S New Inn.

G. M.S. C.C. H.S. P.D. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

OSIER-HOLT. A bed of osiers. See HOLT.

OTTAMY. A skeleton. Corrupted from *anatomy*.

C.C. H.H. "Otomy." L.H. "Otomy." H.P.

OUR. A term signifying relationship, as "*Our* John;" used by any member of the family, in the same sense as "*My* Thomas" is used by a fond parent,

H.A.D.

OURN. Ours, our own. *Ourn* and *yourn* are A.-Sax. possessive pronouns. See Pegge, p. 196.

W.C.app. J.S. P.D. L.H.

OUST. To turn out; to cheat. "I'll *oust* him out of his place, if I can." "He completely *ousted* me out of that five pounds."

L.H. H.A.D.

OUT. Throughout. A farmer frequently says, when a load of grain is not equal to the sample, "it is not *all out* so good as it should be."

2. This word is used in speaking of either a successful or an unsuccessful undertaking. "He made a good *out* of that speculation." "He made a poor *out* of his speech."

OUT-AXT. *See* AXT.

M.S. H.A.D.

OUT-BREAK. Applied to a person who is occasionally unsteady, and at other times sober and industrious. "He's had another *out-break*;" or, "He's been a long time without an *out-break*."

OUT-CLIP. To out do, to surpass. Used in the northern parts of the county, but not general.

OUT AT ELBOWS. In debt. "He won't go on much longer, for he's quite *out at elbows*."

B.N.C.

OUT AND OUT. Thoroughly, completely. A slang term. "He's an *out and out* good-for-nothing fellow." "I was a better hand than he; I beat him *out and out*."

C.C.

OUT OF. "He got *out of* that concern, better than I expected." It is a common question, when any one gets into a scrape, "How did you get *out of* it?"

OUT AT HEELS. Shabbily dressed; a remark not limited to shoes and stockings.

H.A.D.

OUT OF HAND. *See* HAND.

OUT OF HEART. *See* HEART.

OUT OF SORTS. Disordered in health, or temper.

OUT O' TH' WAY. Extravagant. "What an *out o' th' way* price!"

B.N.C. H.A.D.

2. Remarkable; something exciting observation. "What an *out o' th' way* bonnet!"

3. Inconvenient, lonely. "It's an *out o' th' way* place to live at."

OUTING. A holiday, an excursion of pleasure. If any one who is generally steady and regular in his habits, occasionally or periodically neglects his business, and goes about from one public-house to another drinking; it is said that "He has had his *outing*, and he'll soon settle down again." The same term is applied to a feast or entertainment, given by an apprentice to his shop-mates and friends at the expiration of his apprenticeship. With us this ceremony is called "burying his wife."

And the long string of merry games,
That at such *outings* maketh much ado,
All were to Lubin's skill familiar names.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 42.

W.C.app. C.C. B.N.C. H.P. H.A.D.

OUTLAY. Expenditure. "He made such a great *outlay*, that it will be sometime before he reaps any profit."

B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

OUTSIDE. At the most. "I wasn't there more than half an hour at the *outside*." "That's the *outside* I'll give you," is a frequent expression in making a bargain.

C.C. H.A.D.

2. Solitary, retired. "What an *outside* place!"

OUT WITH IT. Divulge it, tell it. "*Out we'et*, let's hear all about it," *i. e.* tell all that you know.

C.C.

OVEN. "The old woman would never have looked in the *oven* for her daughter, if she had not been there herself." This proverb is given by Ray, and is still in common use.

H.A.D.

OVEN-BIRD. The long-tailed Titmouse. *Parvus caudatus*. (Linn.) The nest is called *oven's-nest*. See BAG.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

OVER. Very. A superlative expression; as, "I am *over* fond of such a thing." "They were *over* civil to me." This sense occurs in the Exmoor Scolding. The word in many cases signifies an excess, too much; as, "The meat is *over-done*." It enters into many compounds, as will be seen below.

2. (Generally pronounced *uvver*.) Upper, the contrast to nether; as *over-crust*, *over-lip*, *over-leather*. The adjectival use of the word is common in Chaucer.

Her *over-lyp* wyped she so clene,
That in her cup was no ferthyng sene.

CHAUCER'S Prol. Cant. Tales.

Of some the faces bold and bodies were
Distained with wood, and Turkish beards they had,
On th' *over* lips mutchatoes of long haire.

HIGINS'S Induct. to Mirr. Mag. (Nares.)

G.&P. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

OVER-FLUSH. Super-abounding. "He's *over-flush* of cash, how he wastes his money."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

OVER-GET. To get over, to forget. "He is so ill, he is not expected to *over-get* it." "She makes such a trouble of losing her child, she'll never *over-get* it."

E.L.

OVER-GO. A transposition of *go-over*. It is often said, when a person wishes to inspect a house or church, "I should like to *over-go* it."

OVER-GREAT. Very intimate.

OVER-LIVE. To outlive. A.-Sax. *Ofer-libban*.

H.A.D.

OVER-MINDED. Much inclined. "I was *over-minded* to go."

OVER-RUN THE CONSTABLE. A phrase applied to those who imprudently exceed their income.

OVER-RIGHT. Opposite, athwart, a transposition of *right-over*. Synonymous with O'ER-WART.

J.S.

OVER-SEEN. Deceived, mistaken. If, after purchasing an article, it does not prove so good as was expected, it is commonly said, "I was quite *over-seen*, or I should not have bought it." It so occurs in Palsgrave. When a small quantity of liquor unexpectedly intoxicates a person, he would say, "I was quite *over-seen*."

L.H. H.A.D.

OVER-SHOT. The space over which the waste water flows, from the wear, down a sudden short declivity, to the natural course of the river. Frequently called a Low-SHOT; and occasionally a STOOP.

OVERTHWART. See O'ERWART.

OWL-LIGHT. Twilight.

OWL - THRUSH. Missel-thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*. (Linn.)

OWN. To acknowledge, to recognize. When one member of a family is at variance with another, it is often said, "They do not *own* each other now:" but it is most frequently used when affluent persons cease to acknowledge poor relatives. "They are such great folks now, they won't *own* us."

M.S."app." H.A.D."Awn."

OWN AND OWN. "To make *own and own*," is to sell an article for as much as it cost, without either profit or loss.

OXED, or OXT. See HOXT.

H.A.D.

P.

P's and Q's. "Mind your P's and Q's," *i. e.* observe punctiliously the courtesies of society.

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PACK. A heap, a quantity, a number. "It's a *pack* of lies altogether," is commonly said of an unfounded report. *Pack*, *PARCEL*, and *bundle* are equivalents in this sense. When applied to persons, it is always used in a reprehensive manner; as, "They're a *pack* of good-for-nothing fellows."

I'll be revenged on the whole *pack* of you.

Twelfth Night, v. 1.

A *pack* of blessings lights upon thy back.

Romeo & Juliet, iii. 3.

Among all the prelates, and among all the *packs* of them that have cure, the devill shall goe for my money, for he still applyeth his business.

LATIMER'S Serm. 4. (1548.)

To lay down thy *pack*

And lighten thy back.

DRYDEN, Secular Mask.

H.A.D.

2. To foist an offence upon another. A person charged wrongfully, will say of his accuser, "He wants to *pack* it upon me, but he shan't." Forby has "Patch upon," in the same sense.

PACKMAN. A pedlar, a hawker, one who carries his goods in a *pack* at his back.

I wha stand here, in this bare stowry coat,

Was ance a *packman*, wordy mony a groat.

"The Loss of the Pack, a Tale." (Jamieson. Supp.)

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PACKMAN SNAIL. The wall snail. This is one of those poetical epithets, so true to nature, in which Clare's poetry abounds; but it is scarcely an admissible localism, as the following passage, from his unpublished stanzas on "Evening," is my only authority for its use.

'Tis evening, the black snail has got on his track,
And gone to his rest is the wren ;
And the *packman-snail* too, with his home on his back,
Clings on the bow'd bents like a wen.

PACK AND PACKAGE. "They are all gone, *pack and package*," i. e., they have taken themselves off, and all that belongs to them. A kindred phrase to BAG AND BAGGAGE.

PACK AND PENNY DAY. The last day of a fair, when stall-keepers *pack* up, and sell good *pennyworths*.

B.N.C. J.S.add. H.P. H.A.D.

PACK-RAG-DAY. Old Michaelmas Day; so called, because on this day servants *pack* up their clothes, on removing to a new service.

F.E.A. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

PACK-SADDLE-STEEPLE. A church tower terminating in a roof, with the gable-ends rising above the ridge. There are several examples remaining in this county, as Rothersthorp and Cold-Higham.

PACK-WACK. The aponeurosis, or strong tendon in the neck of cattle. *Ligamentum nuchae*. A very common, but old word, occurring in the Promptorium Parvulorum. Brockett has *Fix-fax*, Grose and Forby *Pax-wax*.

G.&P. M.S. H.P. H.A.D.

PAD. A beaten foot-path. Noticed by Marshall, in his Rural Economy, as a Northamptonshire localism. It is a frequent caution, to a person crossing a field where there's a path, "Keep upon the *pad*, or you'll injure the grass." A.-Sax. *Paad*.

F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To make a path by walking on an untracked surface, as new fallen snow, or fresh ploughed land.

F.E.A. E.L. H.A.D.

3. To travel on foot. "I shall *pad* it."

H.P.

PAD. A fox's foot; a sporting term. Also applied to the feet of a dog.

H.P. H.A.D.

PADS, or PEDS. Open panniers, generally made of peeled osiers; such as are placed on donkeys for carrying fruit and vegetables to market, almost superseded by the market cart, but still used for conveying turnips into the field for feeding sheep. Called also CRATES.

F.E.A. "Ped." H.A.D.

PADDLE. To trample, or pad about in water; to mark a floor with wet feet; applied principally to children.

F.E.A. P.D. H.P.

2. A plough spud, to clean the plough on strong land in dirty weather.

H.A.D.

PADDLING. Walking through wet and dirt. Applied to females who go about regardless of weather. "What do you go *paddling* through thick and thin, in that way, for?"

PADDOCK. A frog, or toad. A.-Sax. *pad*. Nares says, "used by Dryden, but perhaps not since:" it is still current in the neighbourhood of the poet's birth-place, Aldwinckle. It occurs in the Promptorium Parvulorum, where Way remarks, in a note, that in the later Wiclifite version the frogs that came up on the land of Egypt, (Exod. viii. 6) are called *paddockis*; and it is recognised by most of our lexicographers.

Would from a *padlock*, from a bat, a gib,
Such dear concernings bide.

Hamlet, iii. 4.

Where I was wont to seek the honey bee,
 Working her formall rooms in waxen frame ;
 The grisly toad-stool grown there mought I see,
 And loathed *paddocks* lording on the same.
 SPENSER, Shep. Cal.

The water-snake, whom fish and *paddocks* fed,
 With staring scales lies poison'd.
 DRYDEN.

The rats brush o'er their faces with their tail,
 And croaking *paddocks* crawl upon their limbs.
 DRYDEN'S King Arthur, iii. 2.

G. M.S. B.N.C.

PADDOCK-STOOLES. All Agarics and *Boleti* with broad
 pilens, except the esculent mushroom. Cognate with
 TOAD-STOOL, and FROG-SATES. Gerard calls *Fungi*, "*pad-*
dock-stooles."

M.S. B.N.C. H.A.D.

PADGET. A small piece of tow, drawn out for the pur-
 pose of spreading ointment upon, to bind round a
 wound. "Get a *padget* of tow." A corruption of the
 surgical term Pledget.

✱ PAICOCK. The universal pronunciation of Peacock
 amongst our rustics. This orthography, which agrees
 with the folio edition, 1623, of Shakspeare, Hamlet, iii.
 2, seems to support the opinion, that this pronunciation
 prevailed among all classes in the midland district at
 that period; and if the commentators had been aware of
 this local orthography and pronunciation, they would
 probably not have considered it a misprint. See Col-
 lier's vol. viii. p. 277.

PAIGLE. The cowslip. Now seldom used, except in the
 comparison, as "yellow as a *paigle*." Ray gives "Blake
 (*i. e.* yellow) as a *paigle*" for a Yorkshire proverb.

Blue-bells, *pagles*, pansies, calaminth.

BEN JONSON'S Masque.

R.E.S. G. M.S. "Peagle." F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PAID. Beat; anything done in retaliation for an injury.
 "I've *paid* him well."

He *paid* good Robin back and side.

RITSON's Robin Hood, vol. i. p. 102.

C.C.

PAIR OF STAIRS. A conventional idiom for a flight of stairs; as first, second, or third pair of stairs, in a lodging house. "He lives up two *pair of stairs*."

H.H. H.A.D.

PAISE. To raise, rear, or lift up. "The window will do, if you *paise* it up." The primary meaning of this verb was "to balance, to weigh;" and it is so used by old writers.

The Wyffes come forth, and up they *paised* him.

Christ's Kirk on the Green.

B.N.C. H.A.D. J.S. T.G. and H.P. "Paze."

PALANQUINS. Long gaiters, leggings. I have sought in vain for this word: I give it on the authority of a friend, who assures me that it was not an unusual term thirty or forty years since.

PALAUVER. Adulatory conversation; flattery. "Let's have none of your *palaver*."

G. M.S. "Palava." B.N.C. H.A.D.

PALAUVERING. Flattering, GLAUVERING. "Don't stand *palauvering* there."

PALM. The English Palm, or Sallow. *Salix caprea*. Doubtless the tree referred to by Shakspeare, "Look here, what I found on a *palm* tree." (As You Like It, iii. 2.) Steevens remarks that "A *palm tree* in the forest of Arden, is as much out of place as the lioness in the subsequent scene;" and Collier, in commenting on this observation, suggests that Shakspeare "possibly wrote *plane-tree*, which may have been misread by the transcriber or compositor." Both the remark and the suggestion might have been spared, if these gentlemen had

been aware that, in the counties bordering on the forest of Arden, the name of an exotic tree is transferred to an indigenous one. Branches of this tree were formerly used for decorating churches on Palm Sunday; and the custom is still continued by the Catholics.

Ye leaning *palms*, that seem to look
Pleased o'er your image in the brook.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 62.

W.C. B.N.C. 2nd ed. C.C. T.G.

PALM-BARLEY. A kind of barley, larger and fuller than the common barley. Halliwell notices the same term.

H.A.D.

PALM-GRASS. Probably the reed meadow grass. *Poa aquatica*.

I gathered the *palm grass* close to the brook,
And heard the sweet birds in thorn-bushes sing.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

PALT. Refuse, rubbish; foul, and unproductive land, that is covered with weeds, is said to be full of squitch and *palt*. The refuse of corn that rises, at the top of the sieve after REEING, is also termed *palt*. From the Teutonic *Palt*, a scrap, a fragment.

PALTER. To hesitate, to prevaricate.

Paltering becomes not Rome.

Coriolanus, iii. 1.

H.A.D.

PAN. An impenetrable stratum of oxide of iron; pernicious to vegetation. So described in Hillyard's "Practical Farming and Grazing." Rust is synonymous.

2. The bottom or bed of the land, below the plough. See Forby.

PAN-BURN-BELL. See the succeeding word.

PANCAKE-BELL. The church bell which is rung about noon on Shrove Tuesday, as the signal for preparing pancakes. This ancient custom is still observed in most

of our villages. At Daventry, the bell which is rung on this occasion is muffled on one side with leather, or *buffed*, as it is termed, and obtains the name of *Pan-burn-bell*. Jingling rhymes, in connection with this day, are repeated by the peasantry, varying in different districts. The following are the most current:—

Pancakes and Fritters,
Says the bells of St. Peter's.
Where must we fry 'em ?
Says the bells of Cold Higham.
In yonder land thurrow (furrow),
Says the bells of Wellingborough.
You owe me a shilling,
Says the bells of Great Billing.
When will you pay me ?
Says the bells at Middleton Cheney.
When I am able,
Says the bells at Dunstable.
That will never be,
Says the bells at Coventry.
Oh yes, it will,
Says Northampton Great Bell.
White bread and sop,
Says the bells at Kingthorp.
Trundle a lantern,
Says the bells at Northampton.

That the bells of the churches of Northampton used also to be rung on this day, may be inferred from the following similar doggerel:—

Roast beef and marsh mallows,
Says the bells of All Hallow's.
Pancakes and fritters,
Says the bells of St. Peter's.
Roast beef and boil'd,
Says the bells of St. Giles'.
Poker and tongs,
Says the bells of St. John's.*
Shovel, tongs and poker,
Says the bells of St. Pulchre's.

* St. John's Hospital.

PANCAKE-DAY. Shrove Tuesday, when it is the universal custom to have pancakes for dinner.

"It is the day whereon both rich and poor,
Are chiefly feasted on the self same dish."

Shrove is the past tense or participle of the old Saxon verb *shrive*, which signifies, to hear confession and enjoin penance; and, before the Protestant religion gained the ascendancy, it was customary, on this day, for the church bell in every parish to ring at 10 A.M. or before, to summon the people to confess to their several priests, and be *shrove* or *shrived*. The practice of confession has ceased, but the custom of ringing the bell still remains.

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

PANNEL. A pad, with a ridge before and behind, for carrying calves.

So rides he mounted, on a market day,
Upon a straw-stufft *pannel* all the day.

BP. HALL, Sat. 2.

PANCHION, or PANSHAN. A brown earthenware vessel, with a black glazing on the interior; narrow at the bottom, and very expansive at the top, almost like the mouth of a trumpet. In small dairies they are used for setting milk, and are called *milk-panchions*. In Staffordshire, a vessel of a similar form is termed a *Joll*.

G.&P. "Panshon." F.E.A. H.H. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

PARFIT. Perfect; this apparent vulgarism can plead the best authority for its early usage.

I shall make *parfyt* a new testament.

WICLIF, Heb. viii.

He was a veray *parfit* gentil knight.

CHAUCER.

Lawyers they are of experience,
And, in cases against conscience,
They are *parfet* by practise.

ROY'S POEMS, temp. Hen. VIII.

B.N.C. J.S. F.E.A. C.C. P.D.

PARFITLY. Perfectly.

This wol be don at leiser *parfitly*.

CHAUCER, Marchant's Tale.

J.S. F.E.A. H.P.

PARFITTED. Perfected.

"That ane parte polist, burnist wele and dycht,

Thare uthir party not *parfitit* richt."

DOUGLAS, Virgil, p. 257.

C.C.

PARGET. To plaster the inside of a chimney, with cow-dung and lime. The original application of this word appears to have been, to plaster walls and ceilings, but it is now restricted as above. Pynson gives "*Parget*, or playstering for wallis, *Gypsum*." Palsgrave has "*I parget*, or whyte lyme." Florio renders "*Incrostare*, to *parget* or rough cast;" and "*Talco*, a plastering, a *par-getting*."

In the interesting volume of "Manners and Household expenses of England in the 13th and 15th centuries, illustrated by Original Records," presented by Beriah Botfield, Esq. to the Roxburghe Club,—under the household expenses of Sir John Howard, A.D. 1467, this term occurs in its more extended sense. "Item, the yere above said, and the vj^{te} day of Aprylle, my mastyr made a comen-acont wyth Saunsam the tylere that he schalle *pergete* and whighte and bemefelle alle the new byldynge, and he schal have fore his labore xiiij s. and iiij d. and ij. M^{le} of bryke; and my mastyr toke him in ernest xij d."

From *pargetting*, painting, slicking, glazing,
and renewing old rivelled faces,

Good Mercury defend us!

BEN JONSON, Cynthia's Revels.

J.S. B.N.C. C.C. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

PARGING. Pargetting. Another form of the above word. "Theyv'e been *parging* the chimney."

PARISH-LANTERN. The moon.

H.A.D.

PARLIAMENT. A thin rectangular piece of crisp gingerbread. Jamieson has *Parliament-cake*, and remarks, "perhaps originally used by members of the Scottish Parliaments during their siderunts." Our name may, with equal probability, have a similar origin.

PARPIN-STONE. A large stone placed at the angle of a door, or window, passing through the thickness of the wall, and showing a face on each side.

H.A.D. "Perpent-stone."

PARTLY, often pronounced PARDLY. Almost; nearly. "*Partly* as usual," *i. e.* nearly as usual. "He's *partly* ten years old," almost ten years of age. Often used as a termination to a sentence, which conveys a positive assertion: "The boy's as much like his father as if he were the same over again, *partly*."

PARTICULARS, often abbreviated to PARTIES. Intimate friends: seldom used without the augmentative *old*, as "They are very old *particulars*."

C.C. H.A.D.

PASE. See PAISE.

PASH. To bruise, to beat into small pieces. "*Pash* it about." The word occurs in Palsgrave.

Death came dryving after, and all to dust *pashed*
Kings and kaysers, knightes and popes.

PIERS PLOWMAN'S Vision. (Toone.)

If I go to him with my armed fist, I'll *pash* him o'er the face.

Troil. and Cress. ii. 3.

B.N.C. F.E.A. H.H.app. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

PASS. Condition, state. "Things are come to a pretty *pass*."

What! have his daughters brought him to this *pass*?

King Lear, iii. 4.

What a *pass* have I brought myself to, by my own policy !

SOUTHERNE'S *Sir Ant. Love*, iii. 3.

Sh' has brought things to a fine *pass* with her wisdom.

BEAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Revenge*, iv.

T.G. H.A.D.

PASSER. A gimblet. A very appropriate term, as it *passes* into, or through the wood. Though it is in universal use with us, I have met with few out of the county who are acquainted with the term. A friend tells me that he has somewhere heard it called a "Nail-passer."

H.A.D.

PASTY. Pale, resembling paste. "She has a *pasty* look."
DOUGHY suggests the same idea.

C.C.

PAT. Ready, without consideration, or hesitation. "He - said it off quite *pat*." "It came in very *pat*," *i. e.* very apropos.

H.H.app. T.G.

PATAGUEING. Tiresome, provoking. "They were very *patagueing*."

PATAGUED. Fatigued.

PATCHEL. To mend clothes.

PATCH IT UP. To make up a quarrel. "They've had a falling out, but I think they'll *patch it up* again."

PATTENS. When a horse strikes the hind against the fore shoe, he is said to have his *pattens* on. POKER AND TONGS is sometimes used to indicate the same action.

PATTERING. Falling in hasty, repeated drops, producing a quick succession of small sounds. Probably from the verb to *pat*, to hit frequently.

E'en the poor hedger, in the early morn
Chopping the *pattering* bushes hung with dew,
Scarce lays his mittens on a branching thorn.

CLARE'S *Village Minstrel*, vol. i. p. 55.

Each trembling cotter now delighted hears
The rain fall down in heavy *pattering* drops.

Ibid. p. 81.

The acorns near the old crow's nest
Fall *pattering* down the tree.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

PATTIKEYS. The seed-vessels of the ash.

PAWS. To "butter the *paws*" is to coax, to wheedle, to flatter. A cottager said, "When I have a fresh cat, I always butter her *paws*, to WONT her," or reconcile her to her new home.

2. "*Paws* off, Pompey." A phrase in very common use, to repress impatient or impertinent curiosity.

PAYLING. A driving, beating shower. A country market-woman said, "The rain *payled* so agen me, it was quite uncommon." A figurative application of the verb *Payl* or *Peyl*, to beat, as given by Grose and Harts-horne.

PAYS. A broad pronunciation of Peas; as also in the compound, "*pay*-shells."

PEACH. To divulge, to inform against. A very old corruption of Impeach.

If I be ta'en, I'll *peach* for this.

1 Hen. IV. ii. 2.

Cit. You had best go *peach*; do *peach*!

2 *Cit.* Peach? I scorn the motion.

BEAUM. & FL. Cupid's Revenge, a. iv.

If you talk of *peaching*, I'll *peach* first, and see whose oath will be believed; I'll trounce you.

DRYDEN.

J.S. H.A.D.

PEA-FINCH, or PIE-FINCH: the latter is more general. The chaffinch. *Fringilla cælebs*. (Linn.) Called in some places the White-wing; in other parts of the county PINK, PINKETY, SHEELY, and SPINK.

PEA-HAULM. The straw of peas.

H.P.

PEA-HOOK. A long, straight STAIL, with a serrated hook at the end, for cutting peas.

PEAK. Weak, languid. A farmer complained that his "horse was so *peak* and WANKLING," he could hardly get him along. Much less common than the following word.

PEAKING. Languid, nipped, sharp-featured; applied chiefly to sickly, drooping children. "The child looks but *peaking*."

I stole but a dirty pudding out of an alms-basket, to give my dog when he was hungry, and the *peaking*, chitty-faced page hit me in the teeth with it.

MASSINGER'S *Virgin Martyr*, ii. 1.

PEAL. Noise, uproar. "What a *peal* the children are making!" Obviously a metaphor from a *peal* of bells.

H.A.D.

PEART or PEERT. Lively, brisk, cheerful. Almost restricted to young children; particularly when convalescent. "The child is getting better, it has been quite *peert* to-day." Hartshorne and others consider it a perversion of *pert*, which agrees with the definition given by the Devon Glossarist, "saucy, brisk, impertinent," but ill accords with our appropriation of it to infants.

H.S. P.D. L.H. E.L. H.A.D.

PEA-SWAB or SWAD. The pod which contains the peas. Cotgrave renders *Gousse*, "the huske, *swad*, cod, hull of beanes, pease, &c."

B.N.C. T.G. H.A.D.

PECK. Meat, food. It is commonly said, a workman has so much wages and his *peck*, *i. e.* his food.

H.A.D.

2. A pick-axe.

H.A.D.

3. Straw, new stubble.

PECK AT. To domineer over, to taunt. "He's always *pecking* at him."

Sometimes we see two men *pecking* at one another very eagerly, with all the arts of undermining, supplanting, and ruining one another.

SOUTH, Sermons.

H.A.D. "Peck upon."

PECKING-HAULM. *See* HAULM.

PECK OF TROUBLES. An accumulation of trouble, perplexity about many things. Todd says, corrupted by the vulgar from Pack.

The tyrant's pallace was in a marvellous *peck of troubles*, for the great sorrow the woman made for the departure of Dion.

NORTH'S Plutarch, p. 802. (Richardson.)

"PECK THEM OUT OF THEIR NESTS." A singular but expressive metaphorical phrase, signifying to disperse children abroad, to send them out into the world to act for themselves, and depend on their own exertions.

PECKISH. Hungry.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PECKLED. An aphæresis of speckled; spotted. Seldom used, except to describe stockings that are of two colours in equal proportion. "*Peckled* stockings." Exemplified in the accompanying nursery rhyme.

Little Robin redbreast sat upon a hurdle,
With a pair of *peckled* legs on a green girdle.
Meek! meek! meek! flowers grow sweet;
Yander goes a fair maid down our street.
"Fair maid! fair maid! where goest thou?"
"Down in the meadow a milking my cow."
"Shall I go with you?" "No, not now;
Stop a little longer, and then come thou."

W.C. H.S. H.A.D.

PED. A pannier, generally made of peeled osiers; a kind of wicker hamper *with a lid*, which appears to be the distinction between a *ped* and a *PAD*, the latter being open and uncovered. *Ped* is an old word, and so widely circulated as scarcely to be considered dialectical. *PAD*, I believe, is peculiar to this neighbourhood. Formerly, *peds* were always used in couples, suspended on each side of a horse or donkey, for carrying provision to market; and they are still so used, and the name retained, though, from the modern improvement of the roads, and increase of traffic, the *peds* are conveyed in a market-cart. Ray says, "Dorsers are kinds of *peds* or panniers, used in Lyme to bring their fish to London." The hampers in which herrings are exposed for sale in our market are always termed *peds*; and fishmongers frequently say, "I've got a fine *ped* of herrings to-day." According to Moor, the market in Norwich for the sale of small wares is designated the *ped-market*. Tusser, in enumerating the husbandry furniture for September, uses our word:—

A pannel and wanty, packsaddle and *ped*.

Way, in the Promp. Parv. p. 390, adduces the following early instance of this word:—

I must have myn instruments hyddur, whyche are in the chyst in my chambre at Norwich, whyche I pray you and Barney togeder jointly, but not severally, to truss in a *pedde*, and send them hyddur in haste.

Sir JOHN PASTON, A.D. 1473.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PEDGEL. To pick and eat corn in the fields. "The corn is so *pedgelled* by the birds."

E.L.

2. To bargain, to chaffer.

E.L.

PEEK. To peep, to pry. "She's allus coming *peeking* about."

That one eye winks, as though it were but blynd,
That other pries and *peeks* in every place.

GASCOIGNE. The Steele Glass. (Richardson.)

PEEL. A long-handled shovel, used by bakers for putting bread into the oven and drawing it out. "Also put into an oven with a *peelee*."—Florio, p. 237. "*Pele* for an oven."—Palsgrave. Nares and Moor illustrate it from Ben Jonson's Barth. Fair.

A notable hot baker 'twas when he plyed the *peelee*.

M.S. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

PEELINGS. Parings. Potatoe and apple *peelings* are terms in common use.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PEEP-BO. Pronounced *Pee-bo*. To peep out unexpectedly, alternately concealing and exposing the face, for the amusement of a child. A transposition of Bo-PEEP.

M.S.

PEER. To peep. "You're always *peering* and peeping about." Used by Shakspeare.

H.A.D.

PEERT. See PEART.

PEEWIT.	}	An imitative designation for the lapwing or plover. <i>Tringa vanellus</i> . (Linn.)
PUWIT.		
PUTE.		

G.&P. M.S. B.N.C. W.C. H.S. A.W. H.A.D.

PEG. "To take one down a *peg*," to humble, to lower the self-importance of any one. A figure from the *pegs* by which a musical instrument is tuned and regulated. "To take down a notch" is an equivalent expression.

H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

2. "To *peg* a person down," *i.e.* to bind a person to a bargain; to silence an opponent by a decisive argument.

"I *pegged* him down till he hadn't a word to say for himself."

3. A low term for striking a blow, or thump with the fist.

"*Peg* away at him." "*Peg* him well."

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

PEG-AWAY. To eat hastily; to do any kind of work earnestly and expeditiously.

C.C. H.P.

PEGGENS. Children's teeth. A fond mother often says to a child, when cutting its teeth, "Come lets feel of your little *peggens*."

PEGGLE AT. To gnaw at any hard substance.

PEGGY-WHITE, or PEGGY WHITE-THROAT. Called by Clare the WHITE-CAP. *Motacilla silvia*. (Linn.) Often confounded with the Black-cap. See HAY-BIRD. In Leicestershire, the White-throat bears the name of *Great Peggy*, as stated by Evans.

H.S.

PELLET-GUN. A small tube, made by removing the soft pith of a portion of a small branch of elder, and fitted with a piece of wood for discharging pellets, which are formed of tow, moistened and hardened by mastication. Used as a boyish pastime.

H.A.D.

PELT. The skin or hide of a slaughtered animal; particularly a sheep-skin, after the wool is clipped off. Not local.

R.N.C. G.&P. L.H. E.L. H.A.D.

The fervour of wrath shall them consume and melt,
Then is thy favour scant worth a sheepes *pell*.

BARCLAY'S 1st Egloge.

A scabby tetter on their *pelts* will stick.

DRYDEN.

PELT-WOOL. The wool that is clipped from the skin of

a sheep, after the death of the animal. Called also Skin-wool.

F.E.A. H.A.D. "Pell-wool."

PELTING. Bustling, hurrying; always conveying the idea of heat from over-exertion. This Shaksperian word is defined by all the commentators as meaning paltry, petty, of little worth, contemptible; which agrees with the "*pelting* farm" in Rich. II. and the "poor *pelting* village" in King Lear: but our signification is much more characteristic of the "*pelting* petty officer" in Measure for Measure, and "*pelting* wars" in Troilus and Cressida, expressing the bustling self-importance of the one, and the heat and hurry of the other. *Pelting*, when employed participially, as the "*pelting* of the pitiless storm," in King Lear, has a totally different meaning, and denotes the precipitance and force with which the rain descends, and may be traceable to the commonly received meaning, "to strike with anything thrown."

PENCE. The yellow rattle. *Rhinanthus crista-galli*.

PENDLE-STONE. A name given by quarry-men to the upper course in a stone-pit, whether of the upper or lower Oolite or Fuller's earth, transmitted ignorantly from one to the other. In the neighbouring quarries of Kingsthorpe, the hard blue stone, which lies above the paving-stone is called the *pendle-stone*. The two upper courses in a pit at Wootton, of the Fuller's earth formation, are termed the upper and lower *pendle*. Morton explains *Pendle*, "a hard, lumpish kind of stone." I am not aware that the term extends beyond this county, except that Halliwell notices *Pendle-rock* for "the top stratum in the stone quarry at Islip, co. Oxon." an adjoining county.

PENNIN. Any temporary place erected for cattle; the inclosed place where they are fed. I give this word on

the authority of Clare; it occurs also in the Somersetshire Glossary.

PENN'ORTH. A vulgar contraction for Pennyworth. An advantageous bargain:—"I've got a good *penn'orth* for my money." "A *penn'orth* of ease is worth a penny," is an "olde said sawe."

Cost. The boy hath sold him a bargain, a goose, that's flat.

Sir, your *pennyworth* is good, an your goose be fat.

Love's Labour's Lost, iii. 1.

So much pleasure for so much money; we have had our *penny-worths*; and, had I millions, I wou'd go to the same market again.

FARQUHAR. The Beaux Stratagem, a. i.

C.C. P.D. T.G.

PENNY. "To make a *penny*," or "To turn a *penny*." To convert anything into money; to buy or sell for profit. Jamieson recognises the former phrase.

2. "Clean as a *penny*" is a common simile for any one that is neatly and cleanly dressed: and it is so applied in Ritson's English Songs.

Brisk as a body-louse she trips,

Clean as a penny drest.

C.C. H.A.D.

3. "*Penny* wise, pound foolish:" a proverbial phrase for such as are careful in trifles, whilst indulging in general extravagance.

H.A.D.

4. "To live by the *penny*." To purchase all that you consume, instead of living upon the produce of the land you occupy.

PENNY-EARTH. Described by Morton, in his Natural History of the county, as "A stoney earth, with a great number of sea-shells in it. Some of those shells being flat and roundish, resembling some of our ordinary pieces of money, or imagined to do so, have occasioned it that name of *Penny-earth*. The shells are chiefly those of *oysters*, of a smaller and thinner sort. In

places, there is no more of the stoney earth betwixt shell and shell than just serves to compact them together." (p. 65.) This name, I am informed, is still retained at Kettering, and appropriated to that portion of the Fuller's earth beds which abounds with its characteristic shell, the *Ostrea acuminata*; and which, there is little doubt, is the identical stratum above alluded to.

PENNY-SHELL. A name given to the nummulite of the Fuller's earth beds, from its compressed spherical form, and from being found in the PENNY-EARTH above described.

PENNY-WISDOM. Injudicious economy. "It is *penny-wisdom*" when a person will buy an inferior article, rather than expend a little more money for a good one.

PEN-PARLOUR. An inclosure made with chairs, for children to play in.

PENS. The long hairs of deer.

PENT. Confined for space, or time. "I'm quite *pent* up for want of room;" "I'm so *pent*, I shall not finish my work," is said by artisans at the end of the week. The latter sense is almost obsolete.

What have I gain'd, he said, in prison *pent*,
If I but change my bonds for banishment?

DRYDEN. Palamon and Arcite.

With hollow eyes and rawbone cheekes forspent,
As if he had in prison long bene *pent*.

SPENSER'S Faerie Queen, c. v. vol. v.

PENTHOUSE. A hen-coop for chickens.

PEN-THRUSH. The missel-thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*. (Linn.) For other names of this bird, see HORSE-THRUSH.

PEPPER. To beat. Sometimes used substantively, as, "They gave him a good *peppering*." Also to hail or rain hastily: "The rain *peppered* away."

—— I have led my raggamuffins where they are *peppered*:
there's not three of my hundred and fifty left alive.

Hen. IV. v. 3.

If he finds out my haunts, he swears he'll *pepper* me.

SOUTHERNE'S Maid's Last Prayer, ii. 1.

As grinning north winds horribly did blow,
And *pepper'd* round my head their hail and snow.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 197.

M.S. H.A.D.

PEPPERING. Beating, driving; applied to a violent
shower of rain or hail. "A good *peppering* shower."

And 'fex! a *pepp'ring* day there's been on't;
But, caution'd right with what I'd seen on't,
Keeping at home has kept me clean on't.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1820), p. 87.

PEPPERY. Hasty, fiery in temper.

H.A.D.

PEPSE. To throw at. A market-woman said, "I was
obliged to get the plumbs before they were ripe, the
boys *pepsed* 'em down so." Halliwell gives it as used in
the West. Synonymous with *pelt*.

PERCH. Two uprights and a cross beam of wood, for
propping up sawn boards for drying.

PERISHED. Starved with cold or hunger.

W.C.app. F.E.A. H.S. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

PERK. To lift up the head, to look brisk and lively. A
child *perks* up when recovering from sickness. Plants
which droop, from drought, *perk* up their heads after
a shower. Nares observes, "Mr. Todd thinks it is still
in use among the vulgar; but I much doubt it." With
us it is in general use.

The yawning crowd *perk'd* up to see the sight,
And slaver'd at the mouth for vast delight.

DRYDEN, Epi. to Mithridates.

He *perks* at that!

Nay, he does more, he almost chatters.

BEN JONSON'S Magnetic Lady, iii. 5.

Full many a flower, too, wishing to be seen,
Perks up its head the hiding grass between.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 176.

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. L.H. "Perky."

PERKING. Looking up, drawing up.

The early blossoms *perking* out their heads.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 32.

Sweet it was to mark the flower,
 Rain-drops glist'ning on its head,
Perking up beneath the bower,
 As if rising from the dead.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 132.

PETER-STONES. A common name, among agricultural labourers, on the western side of the county, for pentacrinial vertebræ, when they are turned up by the plough.

PETH or PITH. Courage, spirit, strength. "He's no *peth* in him," said of both animals and persons: synonymous with PLUCK.

PETH-STRAW. The HAULM of peas.

PETTED. Scolded in a fretful manner. "He *petted* at him for nothing," *i. e.* was angry without occasion.

PETTY-TOES. The feet of a sucking-pig.

PEVY. To pelt. "He *pevy'd* him well." "The hail *pevy'd* about." Boys' marbles are sometimes called *peevies* in London.

PHILLER, or PHILL-HORSE. The shaft-horse. So spelt in all the old copies of Shakspeare; another local form of THILLER. See FILLER.

PHILLIP. The sparrow. *Fringilla domestica*. (Linn.) This title is not at all common with us, but it is of great antiquity.

It longeth not to my science nor cunning,
 For *Philip* the sparrow the dirge to singe.

"The Ship of Fooles," p. 256.

PIANA. A magpie. *Corvus pica*. (Linn.) So called in Kent.

B.N.C. 2nd ed. "Pianet." H.H. "Pynate." C.C. & H.A.D.
 "Pianot." T.G. "Piannet."

PICK. A point, the prong of a fork, &c.

2. A pointed mattock, a pick-axe. In some places a single tool is called by a plural name, as, "a pair of *picks*."

Which the sandman's delving spade,
 And the pitman's *pix* have made.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 116.

M.S. H.A.D.

PICK-A-BACK. A mode of riding on the back of another person, by clasping the arms round the neck; the legs being placed under the arms of the person, or allowed to dangle down the back. A favourite amusement with children. Florio renders "*Disdossa*, loosely on one's back, *a-pick-a-pack*."

H.H. M.S. & F.E.A. "Pig-back." H.A.D.

PICKEN. To sharpen the point of anything; generally applied to the sharpening of pencils.

PICKENING. Sharpening. "My pencil is so DUBBED, it wants *pickening*."

PICKER. The man who pitches or loads the grain.

Upon the waggon now, with eager bound,
 The lusty *picker* whirls the rustling sheaves.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 94.

PICKING. Re-gleaning a field, picking up the ears of corn which were overlooked at the first gleaning. "We're going a *picking*." The circulation of this term, as of many others, is extremely local; within a few miles only, it is quite unknown, and PROWLING is used correlatively. Halliwell has *Pick*, to glean corn. The Scotch use *Pickle*, for a grain of corn.

PICKLE. An arch, mischievous, unruly boy. "He's a pretty *pickle*."

C.C. P.D. H.A.D.

PICK-POCKET. The shepherd's purse. *Thlaspi Bursa pastoris*. Children, when gathering this plant, frequently repeat the following couplet:—

*Pick-pocket, penny nail,
Put the rogue in the jail.*

PICK-FORK. A pitch-fork, a hay-fork. The Craven Glossarist exemplifies it from the Bible, 1608:

Yet they had a file for the shares, and for the mattocks, and for the *pick-forkes*, and for the axes, and for to sharpen the goads.

1 Sam. xiii. 21.

G.&P. C.C. B.N.C. F.G.

PICK UP. To mend gradually in health. "He *picks up* his crumbs."

H.P. H.A.D.

PIE-APPLE. The cone of the fir; more commonly called PUR-APPLE. Forby gives *Deal-apple* as the cognate term in East Anglia.

PIE-FINCH. See PEA-FINCH.

W.C. "Pied-finch." H.S. E.L. H.A.D.

PIFFLING. Engaged in trifling occupations. "He's always *piffing* about the farm." *Paffling* is nearly synonymous in Brockett.

E.L. H.P.

PIG. "Cold Pig." Cold air produced by opening the bed-clothes and fanning them about, to chill those who are in bed, and induce them to rise; also, cold water thrown in the face for the same purpose. A youthful frolic practised upon sluggards.

C.C. H.A.D.

PIG-HEADED. Stupid, obstinate, unyielding. Ben Jonson applies it to the head, rather than the temper.

Come forward; you should be some dull tradesman by your *pig-headed* sponce now, that think there's nothing good any where but what is to be sold.

C.C. H.P.

PIG-NUTS. Earth-nuts. *Bunium flexuosum*. A very general name, but given as dialectical by Hunter and Halliwell.

PIG-RUNNING. A sport and pastime at wakes and rural festivities. A large pig, with the tail well soaped, is turned out and chased by young men and boys, as a prize for the first who can retain his hold of the struggling animal.

H.A.D.

PIG'S-WHISPER. A very low whisper: also used to express a short space of time. "I'll do't in a *pig's-whisper*." The former sense is given by Halliwell.

PIGS. See OLD SOWS.

H.A.D.

PIGS. "To drive your *pigs* to market." To snore.

2. "You've brought your *pigs* to a fine market." An ironical expression, signifying that you have been unsuccessful in business.

C.C. H.A.D.

PIGS. "Please the *pigs*." A common vulgar expression or exclamation; supposed to be corrupted from *Pix*, the box in which the consecrated wafers are kept in Roman Catholic chapels.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

PIGEON-FELT. The fieldfare. *Turdus pilaris*. (Linn.)
Called also BLUE-TAIL, FELT, and FELTEFARE.

PIGEON'S-MILK. To send a child to a chymist's shop for "a PEN'NORTH of *pigeon's-milk*," is an old standing joke practised on the first of April. See OIL OF HAZEL.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

PIGEON'S-PAIR. When a family consists of only a son and a daughter, it is said to be "a *pigeon's-pair*."

H.A.D.

PIGIN. A small cylindrical wooden vessel, formed of staves, hooped together; one longer than the rest serving for a handle. An old word, nearly obsolete. Jamieson calls it a Milk-pail; Brockett, in his second edition, a Handy; and Hunter notices the word, but his definition corresponds with our LADE-PAIL. Todd supplies an early example:—

Of drinking cups, divers sorts we have : some of elm
broad-mouthed dishes, noggins, whiskins, *piggins*.

HAYWOOD, Drunkard Opened, &c. (1635) p. 45.

R.N.C. G. H.H. H.A.D.

PIGGLE. To root up potatoes with the hand. Halliwell restricts this word to Northamptonshire.

PIGHTLE. A small inclosure at the back of a cottage. Bishop Percy gives "*Pightle* or *Pightland*, a little inclosure adjoining to a house." The term frequently occurs in early deeds; nor is it yet disused. In 1840, a small *Pightle*, occupied as garden-ground, was advertised in the Northampton Mercury. The word occurs in other Glossaries, and is variously spelt *Pickle*, *Pightel*, *Pitle*, and *Pycle*.

G. M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PIG-TAIL. Goose-grass. See CLEAVERS.

PIKE. A piece of ploughed land, wide at one end, and running to a point at the other. The *pike* of a close is the end which runs up into a point. See also PIKLE.

2. To scrape. "*Pike* the dirt off the spade."

PIKE-HOLE. An aperture in the wall of a barn for admission of light.

PIKE-STAFF. "As plain as a *pike-staff*." A common simile applied to any article of dress or furniture, particularly plain and unadorned. To a person dull of com-

prehension, who does not understand what is self-evident, it is often said, "You're quite stupid, it's as plain as a *pike-staff*." Todd and Halliwell give it *Pack-staff*.

To me it is as plain as a *pike-staff*, from what mixture it is, that this daughter silently lours, t'other steals a kind look.

Tatler.

PIKED. Pointed. "A *iked* stick."

PIKELET. A small, thin, circular, half-baked tea-cake; more commonly called crumpet: both very inappropriate names.

B.N.C. C.C. H.S. H.A.D.

PIKEL. A two-pronged fork.

H.S.

PIKLE. A long narrow slip of ground, terminating at a sharp angle. *See* PIKE.

PILCH. A flannel wrapper for an infant. Anciently a dress, or mantle, made of skins. *See* Way's Promptorium, p. 397.

J.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PILES. The awns of barley.

PILEY. If the barley is not cleared from the awns when offered for sale, it is called *piley*.

PILING. Breaking off the beards, or awns, of thrashed barley. Brockett gives HUMBLE as synonymous.

H.S. H.A.D.

PILING-IRON. The instrument with which the PILES are beaten off the barley. Called, in other parts of the county, FALTERING-IRON and POLTING-IRON.

H.S.

PILL. Peel; skin; bark. "Orange *pill*." "Tater *pill*." "Boil the taters with the *pills* on." Todd has the verb, but not the noun.

Add in the decoction the *pill* of a sweet lemon.

Bacon, Cent. i. 46.

2. To peel. Florio, "*Mandare*, to pare, to *pill*, to shell, &c."

When bushe or brambles *pilled* the shopes skin.

BARCLAY'S Third Egloge.

His loke frowarde, his face without pleasance,

Pilling like scales, his wordes ay untrue,

His eyes sparkling with fyre ay freshe and newe.

"The Ship of Fooles," p. 99.

C.C. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

PILLAR TO POST. "Driven from *pillar* to *post*."

Compulsorily driven from one point, or place, to another.

Defeated in successive arguments, or baffled in every attempt to carry out some favourite plan.

PIMPING. Little, petty. Generally used pleonastically, "What a *pimping* little bonnet you've got on!"

H.A.D.

PIN-BASKET. The last child of a family.

M.S. F.E.A. H.A.D.

PINCH. To be niggardly. "I *pynch* or spare as a nygard dothe." Palsgrave. Forby gives the noun.

For he was a grutchende evermore,
There was with him none other fare,
But for to *pinche*, and for to spare,
Of worldes mucke to gette ences.

GOWER, Conf. Am. b. v.

H.A.D.

PINCHER. The Black-cap, or larger Titmouse. *Parus Major*. (Linn.) Called thus from its note in winter and early spring; when it is said to foretell sharp weather. "The frost is not gone yet, for the Black-cap cries *pincher* still."

PINCHERS. Pincers.

T.G.

PINCLOTH. A child's pinafore. Called also PINTIDY and PINNER.

H.A.D.

PINDER or PINNER. A person employed to impound stray cattle. A.-Sax. *pyndan*, to pound, to shut in.

She doth not only think of lusty Robin Hood,
But of his merry man, the *Pindar* of the town,
George-a-Green.

DRAYTON's Polyolbion, s. xxviii.

I care not for earl, nor yet for knight,
Nor baron that is so bold;
For George-a-Green, the merry *pinner*,
He hath my heart in hold.

"The Pinner of Wakefield."

The cowboy oft slives down the brook,
And tracks for hours each winding round;
While *pinders*, that such chances look,
Drive his rambling cows to pound.

CLARE's Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 88.

H.A.D.

PINEY-WHINEY. Fretful, complaining from indisposition.

PIN-FEATHERS. The incipient feathers of birds before they are fledged; or which remain in the skin after they have been picked for cooking. Occasionally called *pen-feather*. The Salopian and Teesdale Glossarists so give it.

Hourly we see some raw *pin-feather'd* thing
Attempt to mount, and fights and heroes sing;
Who for false quantities was whipt at school.

DRYDEN.

My children then were just *pen-feather'd*,
Some little corn for them I gather'd.

PRIOR, The Turtle and Sparrow.

Among the leaves the young are snugly nurst;
Morning's young dew wets each *pin-feather'd* wing.

CLARE's MS. Poems.

PIN-FOLD. A sheep-fold; a place for impounded cattle. Palsgrave gives this word, "I pounde, I put horse or beestes in the *pin-fold*."

M.S. H.H. H.A.D.

PINGLE. A clump of trees, or underwood, not large enough for a SPINNEY. This sense appears to be peculiar to us. Todd, and the Glossarists who notice the word, define it "A small croft or inclosure."

Meadow and close, and *pingle*; where suns eling
And shine on earliest flowers.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

2. To eat fastidiously, from want of appetite; to pick a bit here and there.

. . . he filleth his mouth well, and is no *pingler* at his meate.
TOPSELL'S Beasts, 1607, p. 530. (Halliwell.)

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PINIATED. Self-opinionated, conceited.

PINK, or SPINK. The chaffinch. *Fringilla cœlebs*. (Linn.) Bishop Percy, amongst his Northamptonshire localisms, has "*Pink*, a pyedfinch or chaffinch." *Spink* is an old name, once widely disseminated, as it occurs in Todd and most other dictionaries. Both names may be considered provincial, as they are unnoticed by Bewick. Moor remarks, under "*Spinx*, the chaffinch. The origin of this appellation is difficult to imagine, and would, perhaps, be difficult to trace." The familiar local names of the feathered tribe must not be sought in the learned languages, as they almost invariably receive their cognomen from some rustic observer of nature, in accordance with the peculiar habit of the bird; either as it regards the food on which it subsists, the mode of constructing its nest (as in the BOTTLE-BIRD, COBWEB, &c.) or, as in the present instance, from the sound of the note which it utters, *Pink! Pink! Pink!* Birds in different counties obtain various appellations; few more than the chaffinch, as may be seen under PEAFINCH.

Want sharpens poesy, and grief adorns;
The *Spink* chaunts sweetest in a hedge of thorns.

HARTE. (Todd.)

There's a gladness of heart in the first day of spring;
 There's a pleasure in memory to hear the birds sing.
 The *pink* or hedge-sparrow will sing at day-break;
 Tho' a leaf on the hedges is hardly awake.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

G. J.S. E.L. H.A.D.

PINK. Height, the *pinnacle*; from which word Todd suggests it may be corrupted. "The *pink* of the mode."
 "The *pink* of perfection."

I am the very *pink* of courtesy.

Romeo and Juliet, ii. 4.

PINK. To blush. "How she *pinks* up!"

PINKENEY-JOHN. The heart's-ease, or small original garden pansy. According to Evans, in Leicestershire it is "*Pink o' my John*." See LOVE IN IDLENESS.

PINKETY. Another name for the chaffinch. See PEAFINCH.

PINKING. Fading, small. "What a *pink*ing light the candle gives." "What little *pink*ing eyes!"

2. A boy's mode of deciding who is to commence a game. See DUCKS.

PINK AND SHANK. First in the morning, and last at night. Applied almost exclusively to industrious agricultural labourers who work early and late.

PINKY-WINKY. Narrow, as half-closed eyes. "What *pink*y *wink*y little eyes he's got."

B.N.C. "Pinkey." C.C.

PINNER. A pinafore. See PINCLOTH.

PINNER. See PINDER.

PINNING. Ground-*pinning*, or under-*pinning*; terms in masonry for strengthening a wall which has given way, by removing the lower courses of stone in small portions at a time, and building them up again firmly.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

PINNOCK. To pull out the long quill-feathers in one wing of a bird to prevent flight. "The bird can't fly, it's been *pin*nock'd."

PINROWED. A dairy-maid's term for the rowed and streaked appearance in butter which is made with hot hands, and the buttermilk not sufficiently worked out. Forby gives *Garle* as correspondent in East Anglia.

PINT. To drink a pint. Clare converts this noun into a verb, in the Poet's Wish.

Would cash, when wanted, pockets fill,
To *pint* it just at my desire,
My drooping Muse with ale inspire.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 116.

PIN-TIDY. A child's pinafore. See **PINCLOTH**.

PIN-TOED. The toes turned inwards.

PIP or PEEP. This word is used with latitude, here, as in other counties. A single blossom of all monopetalous plants is termed a *pip*, as in the cowslip and auricula. The kernel of an apple or other fruit, or any seed of the same form, is called a *pip*. The spots on playing-cards bear the same name, and in many games it is common to say "count the *pips*."

Cowslip bunches nodding shake,
Bees in every *peep* did try.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 125.

Folks tell me that the May's in flower,
That cowslip *peeps* are fit to pull.

Ibid. vol. ii. p. 29.

J.S. W.C. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. A.W. H.S. H.A.D.

PIPES. The voice. "Open your *pipes*."

H.A.D.

PIPING. Crying. Applied only to petulant children.
"What do you stand *piping* there for." Jamieson has,
"To tune one's *pipes*, to cry."

P.D.

PIPING HOT. Very hot. Palsgrave. This phrase is used by Chaucer, as quoted under **GLEED**. Halliwell illustrates it from one of the London Cries:—

Piping hot, smoking hot!
 What have I got?
 You have not;
 Hot grey pease, hot! hot! hot!

It was formerly exemplified here, by the nightly invitation to purchase hot mutton pies:—

Piping hot, smoking hot!
 Mutton pies,
 All hot! all hot!

We also employ it metaphorically, as, "He's gone off *piping hot* to tell the news."

And, *piping hot*, puffs toward the pointed plaine,
 With a broad Scot, or proking spit of Spaine.

BP. HALL'S Satire, 4, b. iv.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

PIPKIN. A small vessel, of the form of a saucepan, made of brown glazed earthenware. Called a CROCK in the northern part of the county. An old name; Florio renders "*Olla*, a *pipkin*, a pot."

B.N.C.

PIPPEN. An earthen creampot.

PIRL. A term applied to a top, when it revolves very rapidly, or spins fast. "It *pirls* well."

H.A.D.

PIT. To oppose, to match: probably from the cock-pit. Equivalent to BACK.

The children of the higher classes were often *pitted* against those of the lower, each taking their side according to the residence of their friends.

Waverley.

C.C. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

PITTED. Matched.

Be it for argument admitted
 That both the combatants were *pitted*.

Pleaser's Guide. (Craven Dialect.)

PIT-A-PAT. A word formed from the sound, to express frequent repetition, as an increased palpitation of the

heart; a light, quick step. Both uses of the word are authorised by the annexed quotations.

What's all this love they put into our parts?
'Tis but the *pit-a-pat* of two young hearts.

DRYDEN.

And the ratling *pit-pat* noyse,
Or the lesse poetique boyes.

BEN JONSON.

PITCH. To lay pebbles or unhewn stones together, to form a road or path. Not synonymous with paving, as in Warwickshire, &c. To pave is to make a level foot-path of smooth, squared stones, which is termed the flagging, or the pavement.

J.S. P.D. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A rapid descent on a road. "It's a steep *pitch*."

L.H.

PITCH.	{	To load hay or corn on a waggon
PITCHER.		with a fork. The person so employed
PITCH-FORK.		is termed the <i>pitcher</i> , and the fork so used is called a <i>pitch-fork</i> .

M.S. F.E.A. L.H.app. H.P. H.A.D.

PITCH-DARK. Very dark. "It's as dark as *pitch*."

One, o'er heaths wandering in a *pitch-dark* night,
Making to sounds that hope some village near,
Hermit retreating to a chinky light,
Song lost in winding cavern dark and drear.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1821), p. 199.

PITCH-HOLE. The window in a barn through which the corn is PITCHED, or put in.

PIT-HOLE. A common mode of designating the grave to young children.

J.S. F.E.A. P.D. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

PITHY. Spongy, woolly; applied to fruit.

PITTER-PATTER. To drop continuously and audibly, like rain or hail on a sky-light. Derived from PIT-A-

PAT, which see. This alliterative formation of words is common to the vulgar in all countries.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

PIZE. Poison! A sort of oath. "What the *pize* is the matter?"

M.S. "Piezen." H.P. H.A.D.

PLACE. A distinctive name for a residence, as "Welton *Place*." Anglo-Latin Lexicon, Harl. MS. 221, "*Place* or stede. *Situs*."

L.H. H.A.D.

PLACKET. The open part or slit in a gown or petticoat, whether before or behind. I have always heard it so used; and, on inquiry of needle-women, they have uniformly so explained it. Bailey (ed. 1747) adopts this definition; and Webster says, "The word signifies the opening of the garment; but it is nearly or wholly obsolete." Florio, in v. *Torace*, considers it a stomacher; Nares, Moor, and others, a petticoat; Grose gives *Placket-hole*, a pocket-hole; Forby calls it a woman's pocket; and Moor tells us, in some places it is applied to a shift.

G. M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PLAGUY. Vexatious, annoying. "He's a *plaguy*, good-for-nothing chap." We use it precisely in the same sense as Shakspeare in *Troilus and Cressida*: "He is so *plaguy* proud."

H.A.D.

PLAIN-SAILING. Straight forward, free from obstruction. "I shall get on now, it's all *plain-sailing*."

PLANETS. When rain descends partially and violently, wetting one field and leaving an adjoining one quite dry, it is said to fall in *planets*.

H.H. F.E.A. E.L. H.A.D.

PLANTING. A beating. "If you don't mind what you're about, young man, you'll get a good *planting*."

PLANTUM. A corruption of *plaintain*.

- ✧ PLASH. To trim the sides of a hedge, to cut off the brushy wood, and interweave the branches. Synonymous with FLASH and SPLASH. "*Pleyser*, to *plash*, to bow, fold, or plait young branches one with another."—Cotgrave.

Cut vines and osier,
Plash hedge of enclosure.

TUSSER.

M.S. H.S. A.W. E.L. H.A.D.

2. A shallow pool; a puddle.

———— As he that leaves
A shallow *plash*, to plunge him in the deep.
Taming of the Shrew, i. 1.

B.N.C. E.L. H.A.D.

3. To throw up water or mud; to splash.

Here the gay river, laughing as it goes,
Plashes with easy wave its flaggy sides.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 8.

PLASHY. Wet, watery. Synonymous, or nearly so, with *splashy*. Way has a long note on this word in Prompt. Parv. p. 403.

As on with *plashy* step, and clouted shoon,
He roves half indolent and self employed,
To rob the little birds
Of hips and pendant haws.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 26.

And wan-hued lady-smocks, that love to spring
'Side the swamp margin of some *plashy* pond.
CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 133.

H.A.D.

PLATE-RAND. The flat ribs of beef. See RAND.

PLATTER. A shallow dish, little deeper than a plate, without any rim or return at the edge, generally made of coarse earthenware. As this culinary vessel is so differently described in the dictionaries, it seems intitled

to insertion here; though, perhaps, it may not be considered dialectical. Broken pieces of all kinds of earthenware are also called *platters*.

PLAY-PLANCHIONS. Broken pieces of crockery, used by female children for decorating their play-houses. Corresponding to *Boodies* in Brockett's Glossary.

PLAZEN. Places. The A.-Saxon plural.

J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

PLEACHY. Mellow, powdery. Jamieson gives "*Pleche*, to bleach." Can this have any connection with our word?

While o'er the *pleachy* lands of mellow brown.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 26.

Small bits of hay,

Plucked from the old propt haystack's *pleachy* brow.

Ibid. p. 77.

PLEZZERIN. Partaking of pleasure, holiday making. "Our folks are gone a *plezzerin*."

C.C.

PLIM. To swell, to thrive, to plump; of which last word it is probably a corruption. In steeping rice, it is often said, "It is good rice, it *plims* so well." I believe this term is confined to the southern side of the county. It is noticed by Grose, as peculiar to the Exmore Dialect; but it is inserted in the Wiltshire, Somersetshire, Herefordshire, and Devonshire Glossaries.

He first discovered himself to be out of his wits by getting together and boiling a great number of groats, with a design, as he said, to make them *plim*, i.e. grow thicker.

LOCKE, On Lowering Interest. (Richardson.)

PLOP. To go off suddenly, and hastily; synonymous with *pop*. I have no authority for this word excepting the annexed quotations from our local poet, but I am informed the word is current in Derbyshire.

Here runs the brook which I have damm'd and stopt
 With choking sods, and water-weeds, and stones,
 And watch'd with joy till bursting off it *plopt*,
 In rushing gushes of wild murmuring groans.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 16.

The *plopping* gun's sharp, momentary shock,
 Which Echo bustles from her cave—to mock.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 84.

PLOUGH. “To *plough* with the heifer.” To try to worm out the husband's secret, through the medium of the wife. A singular phrase, of scriptural origin. See Judges, xiv. 18.

PLOUGH. The rustic's name for the constellation Ursa Major, or the Great Bear.

PLOUGH MONDAY, or PLOUGH-WITCH MONDAY.

The first Monday after Twelfthday; originally the day on which the husbandmen resumed their labours after the Christmas festivities. The custom is supposed to derive its origin from the ancient Feast of Fooles. It is still kept as the ploughboy's holiday in many of our villages, but with much less ceremony every year than the preceding; and it is now little more than a pretext for soliciting money, by some rude rustics in motley attire, unaccompanied by the plough. In the northern and eastern parts of the county it is more noticed than in the neighbourhood of Northampton. The pageant varies in different places, sometimes five persons precede the plough, which is drawn by a number of boys with their faces blackened and REDDLED. Formerly, when the pageant was of a more important character than now, the plough was drawn by oxen decorated with ribbons. The one who walks first in the procession is styled the Master, and is grotesquely attired, having on a large wig; two are gaily bedizened in women's clothes; and two others have large hunches on their backs, on which are sewed the knave of hearts; these two are called Red

Jacks, or Fools. Each of the five carries a besom, and one of them a box, which he rattles assiduously among the spectators, to obtain their donations, which are spent at night in conviviality and jollification. In some instances they plough up the soil in front of the houses of such persons as refuse their contributions. Before the inclosure of open fields, there was another custom in connection with this day. When the ploughman returned from his labours in the evening, the servant maid used to meet him with a jug of toast and ale; and if he could succeed in throwing his plough hatchet into the house before she reached the door, he was entitled to a cock to throw at the next Shrove-tide, but if she was able to present him with the toast and ale first, then she gained the cock. Tusser notices a somewhat similar practice in the following couplet.

If ploughman get hatchet or whip to the skreen,
Maids loseth their cock, if no water be seen.

PLOUGH WITCHES. The rustics who personate the different characters that accompany the plough, on **PLOUGH MONDAY**.

PLOUGH WITCHING. Going about to the neighbouring villages on **PLOUGH MONDAY**; which see.

PLOWDING. Wading and splashing through thick and thin.

G. B.N.C. H.P.

PLUCK. Courage, spirit. A coward is said to have "no *pluck* in him." In allusion to the vital organs, which form what is called the *pluck* of a slaughtered animal; and this term is no doubt derived from the force with which it is extracted or *plucked* from the animal by the butcher.

H.H. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

PLUCK A CROW. See **CROW**.

PLUCK-PASTY. A country substitute for mince-pie; made of the *pluck* of a pig, with the exception of the

liver, chopped up with apples, and mixed with currants, sugar, spice, and wine. This rural dainty more commonly obtains the name of SWEET PIE.

PLUFFED. Swollen, bloated, puffy. An epenthesis of *puffed*.

F.D. E.L. H.A.D.

PLUM, or PLUMB. Even, exactly square, or upright.

"This work stands *plum*."

C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

PLUM-PUDDING. The name of a game at marbles, played thus. Of two or more boys, each puts an equal number of marbles in a row close together; a mark is made at some little distance, called *taw*; the distance is varied according to the number of marbles in a row. The first boy bosses at the row, in such a way as to pitch just on the marbles, and so strike as many as he can out of the line; all that he strikes out he takes; the rest are put close together again, and the other players take their turns in the same manner, till all the marbles are struck out of the line, when they all stake afresh, and the game begins again.

PLUMP. Exact, direct. "The wind is *plump* east." "I met him *plump* in the face."

H.A.D.

2. To speak out plainly and promptly. "He *plumpt* it out." Analogous to "bolting it out."
3. A mode of shooting at marbles, by raising the hand, so that the marble does not touch the ground until it reaches the object of its aim.

PLUNGE. A strait, a difficulty. "I was put to a *plunge*."

For he that blontly runs, may light among the breers,
And so be put into his *plunge*, where danger least appears.

Uncertaine Auctors. The Lover dreading to
move his sute, &c. (Richardson.)

Idle. What *plunges* he puts me to!

"The Puritan," i. 6.

H.A.D.

POACH. To impress most, yielding, pasture-land with the feet of cattle. Jamieson gives this word as an adjective, and explains it: "Apt to be turned up, or trampled into holes by the feet; applied to the sward of land." Cotgrave has "*Poche. Poched*; thrust or digged out with the fingers," to which, I presume, our word may be referred. See POULCH.

H.A.D.

POCKET. "To *pocket* an affront." To put up with a grievance, instead of resenting it.

PODDLE. To walk with tottering and unstable step, as a child. Cognate with *toddle*. Jamieson has "*Pod*, to walk with short steps."

The ruddy child nursed in the lap of care,
In toil's rude strife to do its little share,
Beside its mother *poddles* o'er the land,
Sunburnt, and stooping with a wary hand;
Picking its tiny glean of corn or wheat,
While crackling stubbles wound its little feet.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 69.

PODDLING. Walking with short, tottering steps.

But happier still in Sabbath walks he feels,
With love's sweet pledges *podling* at his heels.

CLARE's Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 197.

PODDOCK, or PUDDOCK. A frog. See PADDOCK.

PODGE. To mend, or patch clothes clumsily. A word in general use, though I have not met with it elsewhere.

POD THISTLE. The broad-leaved thistle. *Carduus acaulis*.

POINT. The principal business. "That's coming to the *point*."

H.A.D.

POINT. "To stretch a *point*." To use great exertion, in order to accomplish some particular purpose.

C.C.

POKE. To project the head, to stoop in walking. "Hold up your head, how you *poke*!"

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To push, to thrust. "*Poke* the fire." "A stick was *poked* into the hole, and they *poked* out the lost shilling."

H.P. H.A.D.

3. A bag. A.-Sax *pocca*. "To buy a pig in a *poke*," is a common proverbial phrase, used when any one purchases what he has not seen or examined.

R.N.C. G. M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. H.H. T.G.

H.P. H.A.D.

POKER AND TONGS. See PATTEENS, and HAMMER AND PINCERS.

POKEY. Miserably small. "It's a poor little *pokey* 'place,' is often said of a confined dwelling.

H.A.D.

POKING. A familiar term for a dull, stupid, retired residence. "What a *poking* place!"

2. Prying about curiously, intermeddling with every body's business. "He's always *poking* his nose into every hole and corner." "*Poking* about," is an expression applied to a person slowly, but earnestly, searching for something.

C.C. "Poke."

3. Feeling and groping in the dark. "I went *poking* along, for I couldn't see."

Poking hens, that lose their way.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 122.

POLANT. A corruption of *Polyanthus*.

POLLARD. Bran and meal ground down together. See GRUDGEONS.

C.C. H.A.D.

POLLARD. A tadpole. Called also POLL-HEAD, POLLY-WRIGGLE, POT-LADLE. In Suffolk and Norfolk, Polly-wiggle and Purwiggy.

POLLARD-COW. One without horns.

H.A.D.

POLL-HEAD. *See* POLLARD.

POLL-PARROTS' BILLS, or BEAKS. The fossil shells known by geologists as *Gryphææ*. Sometimes they are simply called *bird's bills*.

POLLYWRIGGLE. *See* POLLARD.

POLT. A hard driving blow. Forby says, perhaps, from the A.-Sax. *pol*, hasta.

F.E.A. A.W. H.P.

POLTING-IRON. *See* PILING-IRON.

POMMEL. The ends which project at the back of a cart. TYPE-ENDS is another name for the same.

PONEY. "Riding the *Poney*." An artizan's phrase for receiving money in advance, for work not completed; "reckoning before hand," as it is called.

POOMER. Anything very large.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

POOR-LAND-DAISEY. The ox-eye. *Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*.

POOR MAN'S WEATHER GLASS. The common pimpernel. *Anagallis arvensis*.

POOTY, or POOTY-SHELL. The girdled snail shell. *Helix nemoralis*. Inserted in Halliwell as a Northamptonshire word: I give it on the authority of Clare, who furnishes various illustrations, one of which is already quoted, under COGGER.

Sequestered nature was his heart's delight;
Him would she lead thro' wood and lonely plain,
Searching the *pooty* from the rushy dyke.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 10.

Bush, dyke, or wood, where painted *pooties* lay.

Ibid, p. 189.

And oft in pleasure's dreams they hie
 Round homesteads by the village side,
 Scratching the hedgerow mosses by,
 Where painted *pooty-shells* abide.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 27.

POP-ABOUTS. Yeast dumplings. A very appropriate name, from their lightness.

POP-GUN. A small tube made of the quill of a feather, the aperture fitted with a piece of stick. An inoffensive weapon, as it is generally charged with raw potato, and used for the amusement of children.

POP-IN. To go to any place for a short time, as, "I just *popp'd in*."

H.P. "Popin."

POPE. The common wild red poppy. *Papaver Rheas*.

It is not uncommon for weeders to say, when they are sent into the corn fields to exterminate this plant, "We're going a-*poping*." This name, I believe, is confined to the southern side of the county: in the neighbourhood of Northampton it is called BLIND-EYES, which see.

POPE'S-EYE. The gland, and the fat surrounding it, in the middle of a leg of mutton; with us it is so restricted.

POPE'S-HEAD. A round-headed broom, with a very long handle, for sweeping ceilings and high places.

H.A.D.

POPE'S-ODE. The garden Monk's-hood or TURK'S-CAP. *Aconitum napellus*. *Ode* is evidently a vitiation of *hood*.

POPP'D. Offended. "He's terribly *popp'd*."

POPP'D-OUT. Blabbed, divulged. "I didn't mean it to be known, but she *popp'd it out*."

POPP'D UPON. Met with accidentally. Applied to both persons and things.

POPPET. An expression of endearment to an infant.
 "You pretty little *poppet*!" Minshew gives, "Puppet,
 or *poppet*-like a childe."

This was a *poppet* in arms to embrace.

CHAUCER'S Prol. to Sir Thopas.

M.S. F.E.A. C.C. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

POPPING-HOLE. A small bump or swelling on the
 head, produced by a blow or fall; derived from the
 succeeding word, with a very inappropriate adjunct.

POPPY. Soft, tender, leaving an impress after pressure;
 applied to a soft swelling or tumour. A term probably
 suggested from the sudden rise after indentation: "the
 flesh *pops* up again."

PORKER or PORKET. A young hog scalded; fattened
 for the purpose of eating fresh, or "green," as it is
 termed. The latter name obtains in Leicestershire.

E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

PORRIDGE. "Save your breath to cool your *porridge*:" —
i. e. don't waste your words in unnecessary advice or
 defence. A hackneyed phrase.

PORRINGER. A small black or brown coarse earthen
 pot, with a loop handle.

H.H. H.A.D.

PORTMANTLE. A portmanteau. This apparent vul-
 garism is well authorised. Moor remarks, "I find,
 unexpectedly, that we have some authority for our pro-
 nunciation in an old anonymous dictionary. *Portmantle*,
 a cloke-bag." It is also sanctioned by the following
 quotation:—

The savour of this flesh brought a wolf to him, that carried
 away the flesh and the *portmantle* it was wrapt in.

Sir THO. NORTH'S Plutarch, fol. 806, Dion.

M.S. J.S. B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.A.D.

POSER. A puzzler. "That's a *poser*."

H.P. H.A.D.

POSEY. A rustic nosegay.

On this same bank I bound my *posies* up,
And cull'd the sweetest blossoms one by one;
The cowslips still entice me down to stoop,
But all the feelings they inspired are gone.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 16.

I'll wander down the river way,
And wild-flower *posies* make.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

M.S. B.N.C. T.G.

— POSH or POSS. To dash violently in the water, to
souse.

—— thus *possed* to and fro,

All stereless within a bote am I.

CHAUCER, Troil. and Cress. b. 1.

B.N.C. C.C. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

POSSE. A cluster of persons gathered together. "What
a *possé* of them." Doubtless referable to the Sheriff's
posse comitatus.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

POSES.	{	Posts. All these ancient plurals are still
POSEN.		in use in the rural districts. Pegge, in his
POSTIS.		Anecdotes of the English Language, ob-
POSTISES.		serves, "As to <i>posteses</i> and <i>ghostesis</i> , &c. they are heedless pleonasms."

For he two *postis* shoke, and made hem fall.

CHAUCER'S Monke's Tale.

G.&P. "Postisis." H.A.D.

✓ POSSESSIONING. Going in triennial procession on
Holy Thursday to perambulate a parish, and beat the
boundaries, for the purpose of marking and retaining
possession; hence the name. The parochial authorities
are accompanied by other inhabitants, and a number of
boys, to whom it is customary to distribute buns, &c. in
order to impress it upon the memory, should the bound-
aries at any future period be disputed.

G.&P.

POSTISES. Posts. *See* POSES.

POSTS. The beds of stone between the GULF-JOINTS in a quarry. Synonymous with BENCH, which see.

POT-ALS or ALLEYS. Variegated marbles made of earthenware. *See* ALLEYS.

POT-CLEPS.

POT-HOOKS.

POT-LINKS.

POT-RACKS.

Various synonymes for the hooks suspended over a fire, for the purpose of hanging pots and kettles upon. The first term is nearly obsolete with us: it occurs in Bp. Kennet's Glossarial Collections, Lansd. MS. 1033, and is current in the North according to Grose and Brockett.

G. B.N.C. H.P.

POT-HOOKS AND HANGERS. The up and down strokes united of children learning to write: resembling a *hook*, such as is used for hanging pots upon.

M.S. C.C. T.G. H.A.D.

POT-HOUSE. A low public-house. Florio authorises this low word, by rendering "*Scorza*, a tipling-house, a *pot-house*."

POT-LADLE. *See* POLLARDS.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

POT-LINK. *See* POT-CLEPS.

POT-LUCK. "To take *pot-luck*." To share a family dinner, whatever it may be. "Will you stay and take *pot-luck* with us?"

B.N.C. 2nd ed. C.C. H.A.D.

POT-RACKS. *See* POT-CLEPS.

POT-WABBLER. A housekeeper.

H.A.D. "Pot-boiler."

POTICARY. An apothecary: an archaism, as the following quotations testify:—

Forth he goth, ne longer wold he tarry,
Into the town unto a *poticary*.

CHAUCER'S Pardoner's Tale.

May not a *potycary* come in by stelh?

O.P. The Four P's. (Toone.)

This ressayt is bought of no *poticarye*.

LYDGATE.

B.N.C. J.S.add. F.E.A. P.D. H.A.D.

POTHER. Dust. "What a *pothor* you're making!" is often said to a servant who sweeps a room heedlessly and raises a dust.

And glossy green ivy
Round the oak bole drest,
That *pothers* up stivy,
When boys climb the crow's nest.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

2. Squabble, bustle. "They're making such a *pothor* over dividing their money."
3. To puff. When a person is over-heated with walking hastily, or with any great exertion, "He goes *pothoring* along."

POTHERY. Hot, close, MUGGY. "A *pothery* day."

H.S. H.P. "Puthery." H.A.D.

POTTER. To pry into other persons' concerns, to go rummaging about.

C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To go about anything in a slow, awkward manner; working, but making little progress.

H.H.

POTTERED. Disturbed, perplexed; inconveniently oppressed with clothes or other things; crowded, overburthened. "I'm *pottered* to pieces." "We're *pottered* up."

W.C.app.

POTTERING. Walking with the feebleness of old age, shuffling slowly along. A horse is said to go *pottering*

See St. King Lear

along, when his feet are tender and he does not lift them up properly.

In cold November's day, so bleak and bare,

When, thy life's dwindled thread worn nearly thro',

With ling'ring, *pott'ring* pace, and head bleach'd bare,

Thou, like an old man, bidd'st the world adieu.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 193.

POUCH. To paunch an animal, particularly a deer.

POUCHY. Sullen, sulky.

POULCH. To push, to thrust. "*Poulch* the fish out of the hole." "*Poulch* the clothes down," a washerwoman would say, when they are boiling fast in the copper. This word appears to be peculiar to us; Todd and Halliwell give POTCH in a similar sense, and Todd observes it is used in the Midland Counties for a rough, violent push, but I never heard it so applied.

Pull out my heart; O! *poach* not out mine eyes.

SILVESTER'S Du Bartas, p. 236.

And with their fingers *pocked* out his eyes.

Ibid. p. 382.

POULCHER. A poacher. Inserted in Halliwell as a Northamptonshire word.

POULCHING. Poaching, taking game secretly. "He goes *poulching* about."

POULT. A blow, a thump; generally on the head with the clenched fist. "I gave him a good *poult* on the head for his pains."

M.S. F.E.A. "Polt." A.W. "Powlte." H.P. H.A.D.

POUNDEN or PUNDEN. To pound, to PUN. "*Pounden* it well." "I want the saltpetre *punden*, if you please."

POWER. A large number or quantity. "A *power* of money." "A *power* of people." "The rain will do a *power* of good."

Aim. . . . pray, what other company have you in town?

Bon. A *power* of fine ladies; and then we have French officers.

FARQUHAR'S Beaux-Stratagem, i. 1.

W.C. F.E.A. H.H. C.C. H.S. P.D. L.H. E.L. H.A.D.

POZ. An abbreviation of *positive*. "I won't do it; that's *poz*." A vulgar colloquial expression, common amongst the old dramatists.

PRANKED. Dressed out, adorned. The subjoined illustrations from our local poet are my authority for the use of this word.

———— And me, poor lowly maid,
Most goddess-like *prank'd* up.

Winter's Tale, iv. 3.

And laughing joy, with wild flowers *prank'd* and crown'd.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 7.

———— Kings cannot wear
Robes *prankt* with half the splendour of a flower.

Ibid. p. 170.

PRESENCE. Aspect, personal appearance. "She has a fine *presence*." "What a *presence* she has!"

F.E.A. H.A.D. H.P.

PREZZY. Presently. "I'm coming *prezzy*."

PRIAL or PRIOR. Three cards of a sort: a corruption of *pair-royal*.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

PRICK. To trace the footsteps of a rabbit. The Craven Glossarist applies the term to a hare, but it is probably used in reference to both.

C.C.

PRICKERS. Forked wooden pegs, used to fasten the gable-poles in thatching. Called also *SPLAYS*.

PRICKINGS. The footsteps of a rabbit.

PRICKET. A buck in his second year.

I wont to raunge amid the magic thicket,
And gather nuttes to mak my Christmas game;
And joyed oft to chase the trembling *pricket*,
Or hunt the hartless hare till she were tame.

SPENSER'S Shep. Cal.

The praiseful princess pierc'd and prick'd a pretty pleasing *pricket*.

Love's L. Lost, iv. 2.

H.A.D.

PRICK-HEDGE. *See* PRICK-NICKLE.

PRICKLE. A basket of wicker work, used among fruiterers; originally made of briars, whence the name: now nearly obsolete in this application, but transferred to the agricultural chaff basket made of peeled osiers.

———— Rain roses still,
Untill the last be dropt; then hence and fill
Your fragrant *prickles* for a second shower.

BEN JONSON. "Masque of Pan."

B.N.C. H.A.D.

PRICK-NICKLE. A dry hedge of thorns, set to protect a newly planted fence. PRICK-HEDGE, FOOT-HEAD, FOOT-SET and STUMP are all synonyms.

PRICKT. Tart, sharp; said of liquids having a tendency to turn sour.

B.N.C. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

PRIDE. "Put your *pride* in your pocket," *i. e.* submit patiently to what you fancy may be considered a degradation.

PRIG. To steal. To *prigge* is "to filch," in Minshew.

H.P. H.A.D.

PRIG. An old coxcomb.

H.A.D.

PRIGGISH. Vain, conceited, coxcombical.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

PRIMED. Exhilarated with liquor, intoxicated.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

PRIMED. Ready for action or business. "He's gone off full *primed*;" a metaphorical sense.

B.N.C.

PRINCIPAL. A builder's term for the beam and COUPLES of a house, mortised together, the beam resting on the wall-plate.

H.S. H.A.D.

PRINT. The privet. *Ligustrum vulgare*. "*Print* hedges."

Clare says, "We call it nowt else wi' uz." Halliwell has "*Prim-Print*;" and Florio, in his explanation of *Olovella*, says "the privet, a prime *print* bush."

PRINT. "In *print*," in nice and exact order, particularly neat and clean; applied to both persons and things. "She's always in *print*, and so is her house."

'Tis such a picked fellow, not a haire

About his whole bulk but it stands in *print*.

O. P. All Fooles. (1605.)

F.E.A. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

PRISE. To force any thing open by means of a lever, as the lid of a chest or a door: to raise any thing that requires PURCHASE. "*Prise* it up."

There stands yonder a chest, from which the lid has been prized off.

Pirate, vol. i. p. 181.

C.C. F.E.A. H.S. T.G. H.P.

PRITCHEL. A strong and sharp-pointed iron instrument, used for various purposes.

F.E.A. "Pritch." H.P. H.A.D.

PRITTLE-PRATTLE. A reduplicative word, expressive of the innocent chattering of children. Florio renders "*Cianfrogna*, gibbrish, *prittle prattle*," &c.

C.C. H.A.D.

PRODGER. "A Tom *Prodger's* job;" a clumsy piece of work is so called: doubtless in remembrance of some individual of that name, whose local celebrity as an awkward inefficient workman has been traditionally extended to the present day.

PROG. Provision, food; also small savings, a hoard of any kind. "He's got a fine *prog* of money somewhere."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A short pointed stick.

3. To prick; to poke into holes and corners. Clare furnishes illustrations of this word in both senses:

And with his hook *progg'd* holes about the ground.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 165.

Or *prog* the hous'd bee from the cotter's wall.

CLARE's Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 82.

B.N.C. F.E.A. H.A.D.

PROG-BOX. A school-boy's receptacle for his cake, &c.

PROGGLE. A goad.

E.L.

PROGGLING. Prickling; poking, stirring up.

And now the swarthy sybil kneels reclin'd,

With *progglng* stick she still renews the blaze,

Forcing bright sparks to twinkle from the flaze.

CLARE's Rural Life, p. 197. (1820.)

E.L.

PROKE. To poke or stir the fire.

H.S.

PROKER. A poker. Used both in Scotland and in Ireland, according to Nares and Jamieson.

H.S.

PROMISCUOUSLY. Casually, accidentally. "I called at his house quite *promiscuously*."

E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

PROMISES. "*Promises*, like pie crust, are made to be broken." A proverbial and perhaps exaggerated comparison, expressive of the ease and frequency with which promises are made and violated.

C.C.

PRONG. The point or TINE of a fork; the two tines are called the *fork-prongs*, not the fork itself, as given by Bp. Kennett, Todd, and others. We also apply the term to the forked roots of a tree, and to the fangs of a tooth; in these two latter senses it is synonymous with SPUR.

H.A.D.

PROOF. Virtue, strength; applied to the provender of cattle. "The hay is bad, there is no *proof* in it."

PROP. To aid, to assist. "He's expected to fail, but his friends will *prop* him up a little longer, if they can."

H.A.D.

PROPER. Very, thorough, complete; not so much the real meaning of the word, as a peculiar mode of applying it colloquially. "He's a *proper* bad un, and has got a *proper* licking." It is applied adverbially in the same manner; a person when over fatigued will exclaim, "Well I am *properly* tired." "He's *proper* close," *i. e.* very mean and niggardly.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

PROPPING. A custom, when a marriage in any way remarkable occurs, of placing pieces of timber or poles round the house and against the door of the newly married couple. An action, in connection with this curious practice, was tried at Northampton Assizes, in 1842. At the marriage of a gentleman at Bugbrook, some of the villagers *propped* his house; and he, being annoyed at the proceedings, fired from a window and wounded the plaintiff; since which time, the practice has been discontinued in that village, but is partially observed in some others.

PROTER. A poker.

PROUD-TAILOR. The goldfinch. *Fringilla carduelis*. (Linn.) This name seems current in the Midland counties; and extends into Shropshire; according to Hartshorne called also RED CAP.

G. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

PROVE. The verbal form of PROOF: a butcher is often asked by a grazier, "How did that beast *prove*?" *i. e.* did he turn out well, was he fat? In making a cake, if it rises well, "it *proves* well." A baker will often say "It is good yeast, it *proves* so well." The former sense is given by Forby; the latter I believe is peculiar to us.

F.E.A.

PROWLING. Synonymous with **PICKING**. Palsgrave has
"I prolle, I go here and there to seek a thing."

PROXY. Frolicsome, skittish. Restricted to a horse that is playful, from rest and good feeding; it implies more than "frisky," but less than "restive." This word is in such universal use with us, that I did not suspect its strictly limited circulation till I had searched in vain for it in print, or for an acquaintance with it amongst the residents in other counties. It may probably be a corruption of *pranksy*.

PUBLIC. A public house, an ale-house. "Our Jim's a wild chap, he's **ALLUS** at the *public*."

F.E.A. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

PUCKER. Bustle, perplexity; so confused as not to know what to do. "I'm in a terrible *pucker*."

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

PUCKERED. Perplexed, confused, **FLUSTERED**. "I had such a world of things to do, I was *pucker'd* to death."

2. If, in sewing a seam, one side of the cloth is held more loosely than the other, and consequently becomes of an unequal length, it is said to be *puckered*.

PUDDER. Bustle, squabble. Another form of **POTHER**.

You need not keep such a *pudder* about eating his words; you see he has already eaten 'em for you.

DRYDEN'S *Wild Gallant*, i. 3.

PUDDING-BAG. The long-tailed titmouse. *See* **BAG**, for the various other names of this curious little bird.

Moor and Halliwell give *pudding-poke* for the same bird.

PUDDING-HEADED. Stupid, thick-headed.

M.S. H.A.D.

PUDDING-PIE. A piece of meat placed in the middle of a batter, and baked in a deep dish. Another name for a **TOAD-IN-A-HOLE**; a savoury but homely dish.

A lawyer's clerk, or an Inns a Court Gentleman, that hath been fed with false Latin and *pudding-pie*, contemn you.

RANDOLPH'S *Aristippus*.

G. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PUDDING-TIME. Dinner-time. "You've hit *pudding-time* well," is a common salutation to any one who POPS IN accidentally to dinner, whether a pudding forms part of the repast or not.

H.A.D.

PUDDLE. Thick, dirty, stagnant water. "As thick as puddle," is a common comparison. Small pools of water standing in the uneven PITCHING in the streets, after rain, are commonly called *puddles*.

Of muddier water that like *puddle* stanke.

Faërie Queene, b. iv. c. 5.

M.S.

2. A person who is very slow, or very inefficient at any kind of work. "He's a poor *puddle*."
3. To poke, to push, to stir; generally with a stick. "What are you *puddling* in that hole for?" "Why do you *puddle* the fire so."

PUDDLING. This word has so many colloquial applications, that it scarcely admits of any specific meaning, and is best explained by examples of its varied use. A person, who lives in a house below his means, is said to live in "a poor little *puddling* place." One who does more business than he has accommodation for, "does business in a *puddling* way." A person who does not pay attention to external comfort or appearance at table, "lives in a *puddling* way;" and any one who is slow in action "goes *puddling* about."

PUDDOCK. This name is applied indiscriminately to the fan-tail kite or buzzard, *Falco buteo*, (Linn.) and the fork'd-tail kite, *Falco milvus*. (Linn.) It is, doubtless, a variation of *puttock*, the common name given by Berwick for the buzzard. Shakspeare refers to one of these birds in the following passage:—

I chose an eagle,
And did avoid a *puttock*.

Cymbeline, i. 2.

Collier remarks that "A *puttock* is a hawk of a degenerate worthless breed;" and, as neither of these birds were of any use in falconry, they might in that sense be termed worthless; while the eagle, on the contrary, is one of the birds assigned in that noble sport to an emperor.

Slow o'er the wood the *puddock* sails;
And mournful, as the storms arise,
His feeble note of sorrow wails
To the un pitying, frowning skies.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 96.

Or shrilly noise of *puddock's* feeble wail,
As in slow circles o'er the woods they sail.

Ibid. Shep. Cal. p. 87.

PUDDY. Short, thick-set: identical with **PUNCHY**, but in less frequent use.

PUDGE or **PODGE.** The diminutive of **PUDDLE**.

While countless swarms of dancing gnats
Each water *pudge* surround.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 31.

The horse-road stood in *pudges*,
And the path was hardly dry.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

PUDGELL. Synonymous with **GUDGELL**, which see.

PUDGY. Short and sturdy. "What a *pudgy* little man."

The same as **PUDDY** and **PUNCHY**. "Pluggy" is correlative in Forby, and "Pudget" in Jamieson.

2. **Muddy.**

And litter'd straw on all the *pudgy* sloughs,
About the hovel where she milk'd her cows.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 162.

PUFFS. Small pasties, made by laying some preserve on one half of an oblong piece of paste, and folding the other half over till the edges meet. A name given to them probably from being generally made of puff paste.

PUFF AND DART. A game, played by puffing or blowing a dart through a long narrow tube, aiming to

strike the numbers painted on a circular board hung against a wall; the various figures are arranged like those on the face of a clock, and he who strikes the three highest numbers wins the game, which is played by two or more persons.

PUFFY. Light, spongy; yielding to pressure.

PUGGENS. The husks of barley. When the chaff or husks adhere to the corn after threshing, they are called HOWKS. The term in Warwickshire, according to Halliwell, is applied to refuse wheat.

PUGS. The integument or chaff of small seeds, turnip, candy-tuft, &c.

2. Squirrels. Foxes are also so called.

PUGGY. Damp, dirty; arising from gentle perspiration.

"What *puggy* hands you've got!" "How *puggy* you've made your work!" A warm, moist atmosphere is called "a *puggy* day," analogous to MUGGY. Halliwell gives, "*Pug*, to sweat," as current in Warwickshire.

G.&P. M.S. B.N.C. E.L. H.A.D.

PULCHRES. A metathesis of *sepulchre*. In very general use in Northampton by the common people, when speaking of St. Sepulchre's church. Halliwell cites several ancient examples of this vitiation; to which may be added the following:—

You cannot see St. *Pulchre's* steeple yet.

BEN. JONSON. The Devil is an Ass, v. 8.

PULING. Whimpering, whining, crying; applied to children: Shakspeare does not so restrict it.

To speak *puling* like a beggar.

Two Gen. of Verona, ii. 1.

Leave this faint *puling*, and lament as I do.

Coriolanus, iv. 2.

G.&P. H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

PULL-BACK. Hindrance, obstruction. "He has had so many *pull-backs*, he could not get on:" referring to either business or health.

PULL-TO-PIECES. To injure, to slander, to defame the character of a person.

PULLY-HAWLY. Rough, rude play. "I can't bear such *pully-hawly* work," is often said by those who reluctantly join in romping sport.

H.A.D.

PUMMEL. To chastise with the fist: one amongst many other pugnacious vulgarisms; this, however, is an archaism, as the subjoined quotations testify. "I *pomell*, I beate one aboute the ears." Palsgrave.

For your pate I would *pummel*.

BEAUM. and FL. Four Plays in One.

M.S. B.N.C. H.A.D.

PUMP. To elicit information; to endeavour to worm out secrets.

I'll *pump* my dad.

RANDOLPH'S Muse's Looking Glass.

—— he pretends to be servant to the other; we'll call him out, and *pump* him a little.

FARQUHAR'S Beaux Stratagem, ii. 2.

I thank Heaven I never *pumpt* for a lie in all my life yet.

DRYDEN'S Maiden Queen, iv. 1.

H.P.

PUN. A slow, inactive person; often applied to female servants. "She's a poor *pun*."

2. To pound, to beat in a mortar. Sax. *punian*. "*Pun* the potted beef well." Steevens, in commenting on this Shaksperian word, instances its occurrence in Holland's translation of Pliny's Natural History.

He would *pun* thee into shivers with his fist, as a sailor breaks a bisket.

Troil. and Cress. ii. 1.

W.C. H.S. L.H. H.A.D.

PUNCH. A hard thrust with the fist: not to jog with the elbow, as Jamieson gives it; nor to strike with the

feet, as in Brockett; nor to kick, as in the Northern Glossaries. "I *punche*. Why *punchest* thou me with thy fyste in this facyon?" (Palsgrave.)

— forst to trot on foot, and foule misused,
Pounching me with the butt end of his speare,
 In vayne complying to be so abused.

Faërie Queen, b. v. c. 2.

M.S. H.H. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

PUNCHY. The same as PUDDY and PUDGY.

PUND. A pound. A.-Sax. *pund*.

B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

PUNDER. A cross-bar attached to the shafts of a cart, to keep the body in an horizontal position when loaded. When it is required to unload the cart, it is commonly said, "*unpunder* the cart:" i. e. remove the bar, and allow the cart to fall backwards.

PUNGELL. To poke, to push; to take pains, to labour assiduously with little progress. "Don't *pungell* the fire so." "What a time you are *pungelling* over your work!"

PUNGLED. Shrivelled, and tough, as winter fruit, over-kept but not rotten; also applied to shrivelled grain.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PUNNING. Slow, dreamy, inactive. "What are you *punning* about?" "Don't stand *punning* there," is often said to any one who is listlessly musing, instead of acting.

PUNT or PUNTY. Neat, tight, tidy.

PUNT. To push with force: to aid any one to rise by a push. A boy will often say, "Give me a *punt* up on this horse." To push with the head, as a calf does a cow. Nearly allied to BUNCH and PUNCH.

PURCHASE. Advantageous position for the application of a level in moving heavy weights, or of any tool used in forcing open a door or removing an obstruction.

C.C.

PURELY. Well in health: nearly synonymous with **PEERT**, but used indifferently, whether speaking of children or of adults; whereas **PEERT** is rarely used except of young children.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A.

PURL. A term in knitting. To *purl* is to bring the cotton from the back to the front of the knitting-pin, and knit the stitch before, instead of behind. In ribbed stockings every alternate rib is *purled*.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

PURR-APPLE. The cones of the Scotch fir. *See* **PIE-APPLE**.

PURRING. The noise a peg-top makes in its rapid gyrations. To a person who stands hesitating, without knowing what he is going to do, I have heard it said, "What do you stand *purring* there for?"

PURSES. Sparks which crack and separate as they fly out of the fire.

PUSSY-CATS. The blossoms of the willow.

H.A.D.

PUT ABOUT. Perplexed, teased, worried, inconvenienced. "I've been sadly *put about* to-day." The same sense occurs in Jamieson.

B.N.C.2nd.ed. C.C. L.H. T.G. E.L. H.A.D.

PUT BY. To postpone, to defer, to turn from a purpose. "He'd 'a' done it, if he hadn't been *put by*."

PUT ON. To push forward; to quicken the pace, to go with speed. "You'll be late if you don't *put on*." Jamieson says, "I have not observed this idiom in England."

H.A.D.

PUT TO. To close, to shut; to connect together. "*Put to the door*." "*Put to the horses*," i.e. harness them and put them to the carriage.

PUT UP. To bait, to seek lodging or entertainment at an inn. "He *puts up* at the Goat." When well accommodated, it is not unfrequently said, "I was very well *put up*."

2. To put aside, to store, to hoard. "I've *put up* my money to help buy me a coat." Knight, in commenting on the phrase, "*puttest up*" in *Romeo and Juliet*, inquires, "Is to *put up* used as to put aside?" With us it is quite common.

3. To rouse the spirit, to provoke, to offend. "She's *put up* in a minute if you contradict her."

PUT UPON. To domineer over, to impose upon. "I'll not be *put upon* by her."

PUT UP WITH. To make shift with.

PUTE. See PEWIT.

PUTLOCK. The horizontal bearing of a scaffold. *Putlog* in Hartshorne, and the Glossary of Architecture; Kersey recognises our spelling, as does Randle Holmes. The small square holes left in the walls, particularly the towers of churches, are called *putlock-holes*.

PWOT. The dialectical pronunciation of *pot*.

PYRING. A metathesis of PRYING; inquisitive, impertinent curiosity; endeavouring to search out what another person wishes to conceal. Always used in combination with peeping, as, "*peeping and pying* about." "*Peeping and pying* into every body's business." *Pire* occurs in Chaucer, and is explained in Urry's Glossary, "To *peer* about."

Go up, quoth Jak, and loke and in the ashis *pire*.

CHAUCER. The Prologue.

For loke howe that a goshawk tireth,
Right so dothe he when that he *pireth*
And tooteth on her womanhede.

GOWER, fo. cxxxij. b.

Q.

QUAG. A bog.

The slave of custom and establish'd mode,
With pack-horse constancy we keep the road,
Crooked or straight, through *quags* or thorny dells,
True to the jingling of our leader's bells.

COWPER, *Tirocinium*.

M.S. H.A.D.

QUAGGY. Soft, tremulous from moisture; exclusively applied to boggy land.

How they, whose sight such dreary dreams engross,
With their own visions oft astonish'd droop;
When o'er the watery strath, or *quaggy* moss,
They see the gliding ghosts unbodied troop.

COLLINS, *On the Superstitions of the Highlands*.

F.E.A.

QUAIL. To turn, to curdle. "The weather is so hot, the milk won't boil without *quailing*." Butter when it is coming, before it collects or gathers, is said to *quail*. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, has "*Quailed*, as mylke or other lyke, *Coagulatus*." Palsgrave gives, "I *quayle* as mylk dothe, *je quaillebotte*; this mylke is *quailed*, eate none of it." The following curious instances of the use of this word are given by Way, p. 418. "In Harl. MS. 5401, f. 192, the following direction is given, "For *qualing* of mylk: cast therto a letil flour, and styre it wele." In a collection of recipes in Sir Thomas Phillipps's possession (MS. Heber, 8186), a caution occurs regarding the use of spices; "A lessone, lerne hit well: to all potage put all maner of spyces to the sethyng, safe gynger, for he will *quayle* the potage for certayne."

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

QUAIL. To fail, in all its modifications, to faint, to fall sick, to be afraid.

Why troublest thou ? doth thy colour faile ?

Why seems thy heart for horroure so to *quaile* ?

SILVESTER'S *Du Bartas*, p. 476, col. 2.

. . . . Yet did he never *quail*,

Ne backward shrink.

SPENSER. *Faërie Queen*.

G.&P. B.N.C. H.A.D.

QUAKER GRASS. The quaking grass, or TOTTER GRASS,
Briza media et minor.

H.A.D.

QUALMY. See CAUMY.

QUANDARY. A state of perplexity from indecision.

Skinner derives it from the French "*Qu'n diray je*."

Brockett remarks, "The pronoun (nominative) was often left out by old French writers, which would here make the derivation more accurate, *qu'en dirai* ?" This word is not particularly dialectical, but is introduced here to show that we adopt it as well as other localities.

G.&P. M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.H. P.D.

QUARRY. A diamond or lozenge-shaped pane of glass, such as was used in old church windows. Called *quarrel* in some counties.

M.S. W.C. H.P.

2. A thin, small, square brick; chiefly used for paving kitchen floors. The term is evidently derived from the French, "*Quarreau*, a square tile or brick fit to pave with." Cotgrave.

H.S.

QUARTER. To drive a carriage so as to prevent the wheels going into the ruts. This word is in such general use, that I did not consider it as provincial, till I sought in vain for it in the dictionaries.

QUASH. A pod or KID of young peas. Peas are just on the *quash*, when the pod begins to form.

QUASHY, or SQUASHY. Wet, unsound, as applied to land; pulpy, as over ripe fruit, or very young peas.

QUAT. A small pustule, a purulent pimple. An old word occurring amongst Bishop Percy's MS. Northamptonshire localisms, still in common use. Steevens notices the occurrence of this word in Decker's *Gul's Hornbook*, 1609, and *The Devil's Law Case*, 1623. When the white head is accidentally rubbed off these troublesome little pimples they smart, and become ANGRY, as it is termed; hence Shakspeare appropriately converts it into a personal epithet for Roderigo:

I have rubbed this young *quat* almost to the quick,
And he grows angry.

Othello, v. 1.

E.L. "Quot." H.A.D.

QUAWING. See CAWING.

QUAWKENED, or QUOCKENED. Almost choked.

c.c. "Querkened." E.L.

QUAWKING. The noise of crows croaking or cawing.

And darker and darker it grew by degrees,
And crows they flock'd *quawking* to rest.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 145. (1820.)

E'en rous'd by *quawking* of the flopping crows.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 24.

H.A.D.

QUEACH. Ground adjoining arable land, unploughable, being overgrown with bushes or stubs. This word occurs in Kersey, who defines it "A thick bushy plot of ground, a place full of shrubs or brambles."

All silvan copses, and the fortresses
Of thorniest *queaches*, here and there doth rove.

CHAPMAN, Hymne to Pan, fol. 129. (Richardson.)

In the nonage of the world, mankind had no other habitation
than woods, groves, and bushy *queaches*.

HOWELL, Londonop. 332. (Moor.)

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

QUEACHY. Wet, boggy land, that requires draining.

SQUEACHY, QUASHY, QUAGGY, GOGGY, DODDY, are all correlatives. Nares does not appear to be aware of the provincial usage of this word, but seems only acquainted with our signification through the passages which he cites from Drayton; and says that Minshew explains it *bushy*, from the preceding substantive.

Comes from the boggy mears and *queachy* fens below.

DRAYTON, Polyolbion, song 4.

When as the anville's weight, and hammer's dreadfull sound,
Even rent the hollow woods, and shook the *queachy* ground.

Ibid. s. 17, p. 265.

QUEEN ANNE'S NEEDLEWORK. The pencil geranium. *Geranium striatum*.

QUEEN CAKE. A small heart-shaped pound-cake.

QUEEN'S PINCUSHION. The flowers of the Guelder rose. *Viburnum opulus*.

QUEER. Strange: hence a *queer stick* is a strange, odd, eccentric old person.

QUELPY. Eggy: from the taste of eggs predominating in any condiment. Can this be from A.-Sax. *cwellan*, to kill or quell: metaphorically to kill or subdue the flavour of all other ingredients? I am indebted to a deceased friend for this word, who informed me she had often heard it in her youth, it was one of her good old father's (Bishop Percy's) words. I have never met with it elsewhere, and believe it is quite obsolete.

QUIBBLING. An attempt to deceive, a subtle evasion.

H.A.D.

QUICK. Young hawthorn plants for making live fences. An old-English equivalent for alive, as opposed to dead, "The *quick* and the dead." A *quick* hedge, or *quickset* hedge, is one made or *set* with *quick*, in contradistinction to a dead hedge formed of dry wood. *Quick* is sometimes used for the hedge itself, omitting the adjunct

with which it ought to be combined. A blackthorn hedge is never called a *quick* hedge, but a thorn hedge.

M.S. W.C. F.E.A. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

2. "To *quick* a hedge," is to plant it with *quick*.

QUIDDLE. To suck, as a child does its thumb.

QUILT. To beat. "You'll get your jacket *quilted*, young man."

W.C.app. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

QUINE-STONES. The large stones at the angle, or corner, of a building. Properly Quoins or Quoin-stones.

J.S. H.S. H.P.

QUIRK. To question any one, to draw him out.

QUIRKING. Quick turning; a metaphorical use of the architectural term.

And by the barn side we saw many a mouse

Quirking round for the kernels that litter'd about,

Where shook from the straw which the thresher hurl'd out.

CLARE, Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 33.

QUIVER. To shiver, or shake with cold or fear.

M.S.

QUOD. Prison, confinement for an unruly person. "He's got into *quod*," or "They have put him in *quod*." Jamieson gives the word QUAD, on the authority of the following quotation from Tarras's Poems, p. 97:—

—— By the cuff he's led alang,

An' settl'd wi' some nicecum,

In *quad* yon night.

Though evidently unacquainted with its use, as he remarks, "This would seem to signify, in prison, or in a bad state."

R.

RABBIT-IT. A sort of demi-oath; a common exclamation.

M.S. C.C. H.S. H.P.

RABBLE. To talk rapidly or confusedly.

Thus, father Traves, you maie see my rashness to *rabble* out the scriptures without purpose, rime, or reason.

Fox. Martyrs, an. 1555.

B.N.C. C.C.

RABBLEMENT. A mob; now in common use, though Dr. Johnson considered it obsolete.

And after all the raskall many ran,
Heaped together in rude *rabblement*,
To see the face of that victorious man.

SPENSER. Faërie Queen, b. i. c. 12.

And hush'd the hubbub of the *rabblement*.

THOMSON. Castle of Indolence, can. 2.

The *rabblement* hooted, and clapp'd their chopt hands, and threw up their sweaty night-caps.

Julius Cæsar, i. 2.

G.&P. B.N.C. H.P. H.A.D.

RACE. The heart, liver, and lights of a calf.

A.W. H.A.D.

RACE-HORSE. Same as DEVIL'S COACH-HORSE; which see.

RACK. To pour wine from a common black bottle into a decanter. We use the term whether there is any sediment or not.

It is a common practise to draw wine or beer from the lees (which we call *racking*), whereby it will clarify much the sooner.

BACON. Natural History, sec. 305.

M.S. H.S. H.A.D.

2. A thin cloud, probably from the A.-Sax. *rec*, vapour. Clare's adoption of this word, in the following passage, is my chief authority for its use.

The *rack* rides o'er the sun like smoke away,
And makes the sun appear the moon by day.

MS. Poem.

But as we often see against some storm,
A silence in the heavens, the *rack* stand still,
The bold winds speechless, and the orb below
As hush as death.

Hamlet, ii. 2.

Which move the clouds above, which we call the *rack*.

BACON.

M.S. B.N.C. H.A.D.

RACK or RACKWAY. An obscure path or track made by deer through the thickest underwood in a forest. A narrow path, or opening cut through a thicket for the use of the gamekeeper in shooting rabbits, is also called a *rackway*.

H.S. L.H. A.W. H.A.D.

RACK-CUTTING. Trimming up the over-growing underwood in the bye-paths used by gamekeepers in a wood.

RACK AND MANGER. A phrase implying heedless extravagance. A metaphor from the stable, tantamount to filling both *rack and manger* at the same time.

M.S. H.A.D.

RACK AND RUIN. A person is said to be going to *rack and ruin*, who by reckless expenditure has brought himself into pecuniary difficulties. Buildings are said to be "falling to *rack and ruin*," when timely reparation has been neglected.

H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

RACK-UP. To give a horse the last feed, and make his bed for the night. "Have you *rack'd* the horse up?" SUP-UP is used in the same sense.

H.P. H.A.D.

RACKELERS. A corruption of Auriculas.

RACKETING. Going idling about from one place to another in search of pleasure. "They're never easy only when they're *racketing* about."

RAFF or RAFFLE. Refuse, rubbish ; worthless fragments.

F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A low fellow ; an idle vagabond. "He's a regular *raff*."

G. B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.P.

RAFFLING or RUFFLING. Idle, dissolute. "A *raffling* fellow."

B.N.C. F.E.A. C.C. E.L. H.P.

RAFFISH. Low, shackling, shabby. "He's a *raffish*-looking chap."

RAG. A flat whetstone for a scythe. Evidently receiving the name from being made of the stone locally called Weldon rag.

RAGGING. Abusive, scolding, MOBBING. "He gave him a regular good *ragging*."

RAGS AND JAGS. Shreds and tatters. Worn-out clothes are termed *rags and jags* : this pleonastic expression is well illustrated by the popular childish jingle—

Hark ! hark ! the dogs do bark ;
The beggars are come to town,
Some in *rags*, some in *jags*,
And some in silken gown.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

RAGWEED. The ragwort. *Senecio Jacobea*.

M.S. H.A.D.

RAINBOW-RIDGES. High-backed ridges of land. This term, I am informed by old agriculturists, was very common in open-field time, when the ridges were thrown up in a curved or semi-circular form. The name is still preserved in old greensward previously ploughed, where

the ridges retain their primitive shape. Cotgrave has "*Rayon*, a furrow;" Todd, "*Rain*, a furrow, or the lower part of a furrow in some parts of England;" and the Craven Glossarist, "*Rain*, a ridge." From which contradictory definitions it is probable that the original term, *rainbow-ridges*, has been abbreviated to *rain*, and applied in some places to the *ridge* itself, and in other places to the *furrow*, irrespective of the form.

RAINY DAY. "To lay up against a *rainy day*," is to be provident, to make prudent provision against future misfortune or change of circumstances.

The rich beganne to hord uppe money for a *rayny day*.

Pref. of HOWE'S H. of Eng. (Craven Dialect.)

C.C. H.A.D.

RAISTY. Rancid. See REASTY.

RAKE. To rove or run about wildly, as children. "*Raking* about" is used by us in the same sense. It is also applied to dissolute young men.

Now pass me to the bold beggar
That *raked* o'er the hill.

Robin Hood, i. 105.

B.N.C.2nd ed. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

RAKE AND SCRAPE. To collect every thing a person can lay his hands on for his own advantage, to be over-grasping and avaricious. Forby has "*Rape* and *scrape*," and remarks that "*Rape* is merely a variation of *rap*." Our phrase is unquestionably a metaphor most appropriately borrowed from the use of the *rake* and the *scraper* in collecting together loose and scattered fragments.

RAKE-UP. To gather everything to the disadvantage of another, and bring it forward in accusation. "He *raked up* all he could against him." Also to revive old grievances: "Don't *rake* that up again." RIP-UP is nearly analogous.

RAMBLING. Talking incoherently, wandering from one subject to another. "He *rambles* as if he were LIGHT-

HEADED." "He runs on in such a *rambling* way there's no understanding him."

H.S.

RAMLIN. Clumsy.

RAMMELL or ROMMELL. Stone rubbish, or rubble; the refuse left by masons, such as is used for the filling in of walls. A term of great antiquity. My late friend Mr. Sharp of Coventry informed me that it occurs in the municipal muniments of that city as early as 1448. Nares gives the word, and illustrates it from Holinshed's History of Scotland. Hartshorne deduces it from the "A.-Sax. *rhemming*, impedimentum. Germ *rammen*, impediture." When turf is turned up, and the soil beneath is loose and gravelly, it is said to be "*rommelly*," or, "all of a *rommell*."

H.S.

RAMP. A technical term for the slope between a higher and a lower wall.

E.L. H.A.D.

RAMPING. (The *a* pronounced long and broad.) Coarse and large; applied to the wide-spreading pattern of a printed dress, or more especially to lace of a coarse ground and large pattern. "What *ramping* stuff!" It is, however, used most to wild, luxuriant vegetable growth.

And the cow-boy seeks the sedge,

Ramping in the woodland hedge.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1820), p. 70.

By overshadowed ponds, in woody nooks,

With *ramping* salallows lined and crowding sedge.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 24.

RAMSHACKLE. To ransack. This word has various other meanings in different dialects: Brockett and Halliwell adopt ours, and assign it to the North.

RAND. A joint, or rather a piece of beef, cut from between the brisket and the ribs. Forby and Holloway

give the word for a joint of beef, but do not define it specifically. Nares, Moor, and Halliwell copy Kersey's definition, "A long fleshy piece cut between the flank and the buttock." Palsgrave has "*Rande* of befe, *giste de beuf*." Beaumont and Fletcher supply an illustration of this term, in the *Wild Goose Chase*, v. 2:—

They came with chopping knives, to cut me into [*rands*] * rounds, and sirloins, and so powder me.

Fletcher, one of our native worthies, probably adopted this word from its local use; but his editor Whalley, also a native of this county, was ignorant of it, or he would not have substituted *round* for *rand*, in the passage quoted, and have appended the following note to it:—

"* As we can annex no meaning to the word *rands* in this passage, we have inserted *rounds*. A round of beef is almost as common a phrase as a sirloin."

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A slip of leather sewn to the upper leather of a shoe, turned over and braced to the inner sole: now superseded by what is technically termed a *SPLIT-LIFT*, which see. Probably derived from the A.-Sax. *rand*, a border.

M.S. F.E.A.

RANDAN. See GRUDGEONS.

RANDED. Specked, grub-eaten on the outer coat or skin, and not penetrating beyond. The term is particularly applied to potatoes, and presents a curious instance of limited locality; though very current in Northampton market, it is not recognised beyond the immediate vicinity. I have never met with any printed authority for the word, and am not aware that it is known out of the county. Fruit that is bruised by hail is also said to be *randed*. May not this word be traceable to an aphæresis of *BRANDED*, marked?"

RANDY. Boisterous merry-making. Used also to a horse that is restive and unruly. "The horse was too *randy* for him."

G. B.N.C. J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

RANDYBOOZE. A feast of eating and drinking; an uproarious holiday. A word compounded of the preceding word, and BOOZE, to drink.

RANGEWOOD or RINGEWOOD. Underwood; which includes the hazel, sallow, and all other brushwood. Small poles, or the trimmings of large ones, also bear the same name. When offered for sale they are always stacked in RANGES or rows, which has probably suggested the name. *Rangewood* and *Ringewood* occur frequently in timber advertisements, in our local papers.

RANK. Applied to anything that projects out unnaturally, especially large, prominent teeth. "The teeth stand *rank*."

2. Strong, luxuriant. "Them there peas grow so *rank*."
 "The grass grows so *rank*, the sheep won't eat it."
 A.-Sax. *ranc*.

When straying herde themselfe doth shroude
 Emong the bushes *rancke*.

SPENSER'S Shep. Cal. p. 39.

H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

3. Used as a superlative, both to persons and things.
 "He's a *rank* bad un." "The pears are *rank* ripe."

W.C. H.H. H.A.D.

RANNEL-BALK. A beam or bar across a chimney, on which pots and kettles are suspended, serving the purpose of a CRANE. It may be seen in the large chimnies of some old houses, which have the fire on the hearth. Called also REDDY-POLE. Jamieson has *Rannle Bauks* and *Rannel Tree*.

B.N.C. C.C. G.&P.H.P.&H.A.D. "Randle-Bauk." T.G.
 "Rannle Bauk."

RANT. To drink, and hoot, and talk noisily.

Let's drink and *rant* and merry make.

RITSON'S Songs.

C.C.

RANTIPOLE. A balanced pole or plank, serving for children to play at SEE-SAW upon.

RANTY. Restive.

H.A.D.

RAP. To exchange, to SWOP. Butchers frequently say to each other, "Come, can't you and I have a *rap*?"

G. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To utter hastily. "He *rapt* out an oath."

To hide their faults, they *rap* out oaths and tear;
Now, though we lie, we're too well bred to swear.

DRYDEN.

C.C.

3. To attempt a thing, hit or miss. "I don't know whether I can do it, but I'll have a *rap* at it."

C.C. H.A.D.

RAPID. Severe. "The pain was very *rapid*."

RAP AND REND. To seize upon every thing within reach; to obtain anything by fair means or foul. Very nearly allied to RAKING AND SCRAPING. The phrase occurs in Palsgrave. See *Ramp*, Craven Dialect.

Their husbands robb'd, and make hard shifts,
T' administer unto their gifts
All they could *rap and rend* and pilfer,
To scraps and ends of gold and silver.

Hudibras.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

RAPSCALLION. A vagabond, a worthless fellow. Jamieson in his Supplement gives *Rabscallion* or *Rapscallion*, and observes, that "he does not find the word in any English dictionary, general or provincial;" but it has subsequently appeared in the following Glossaries.

B.N.C.2nd ed. C.C. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

RAPSTICK. A kind of strap used after the whetstone in sharpening a scythe; generally hung on the SNED of the scythe, when mowing. It is more frequently called RIFLE.

RARE or REAR. An addition to a Bee-hive, added at the bottom, to raise or *rear* up the hive as the Bees require an enlarged habitation; obviously from the verb *to rear*. Called in some parts of the county an ECHE; which has been already noticed.

RARELY. Very well in health: the word is also employed to express success in any undertaking. "How are you getting on? *Rarely*." Not dialectical, but overlooked in the dictionaries.

C.C. T.G. H.A.D.

RASH. Dry, over ripe; as, *rash* corn, such as sheds without handling. Common in the north.

R.N.C. G. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

RASHER. A rush. A.-SAX. *resce*.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

RASP. The steel of the old-fashioned tinder-box: superseded by the modern lucifer.

M.S.

RASPS. The raspberry bush, and the fruit.

G. B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.P.

RATE. To rule, to govern. "The children won't be *rated*."

2. To chide, to scold abusively. "Give him a good *rating*, *rate* him well." An old word well authorised.

He shall be *rated* of his studying.

CHAUCER, Millere's Tale.

Then when the time came of his appearance befor the chancellor, he threatened him grieuously, reuilling, and *rating* him as though he had bin a dog.

Fox, Martyrs, an. 1536.

And rails, and swears, and *rates*; that she, poor soul,
Knows not which way to stand, to look, to speak.

Taming the Shrew, iv. 2.

'Tis to be chid as we *rate* boys.

Ant. and Cleo. i. 4.

H.S. H.P.

RATHER OF THE RATHEREST. A very little; implying a slight difference, so little that it is scarcely perceptible. In speaking of two roads which are of nearly equal length, the term "*rather of the ratherest*" would be applied to either the longer, or the shorter, indifferently. When meat is slightly over, or underdone, it is said to be "*rather of the ratherest*."

G. F.E.A. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

	{	The moveable rails round a waggon. I
RATHES.		was unacquainted with these names, for
RATHING.		the appurtenances to a waggon, when the
REAVING.		various synonymes were given under
		COPSES.

E.L. H.A.D.

RAT-TAT. What is termed a double knock at a door.
"He gave such a *rat-tat* at the door."

RATTLE. A giddy hair-brained person; one who utters voluble nonsense. "He's a regular *rattle*."

RATTLE-CAP or RATTLE-PATE. A giddy chattering thoughtless girl: very much like a flirt.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

RATTLE-TRAPS. A common conventional term for small moveable articles. "Pack up your *rattle-traps*."

C.C. H.A.D.

RATTLER. A great falshood. "That's a *rattler*." Also a blow.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

RAVES or REAVES. The definition of this word, and its correlatives, will be seen under COPSES and RATHES. In Palsgrave is found "*ravys* of a cart." "A six-inch

wheel cart with *raves* was advertised for sale in the Northampton Mercury, 1832. Halliwell assigns the term to Lincolnshire. There are other names prevailing for this moveable appendage to a cart or waggon in different dialects: the Sussex Glossary gives "*LADE*," Hartshorne "*Ripples*," and Holloway "*Raers*."

RAVLINGS. } Raw, untwisted threads, drawn or
ROVLINGS. } fringed out of silk or cloth. Shakspeare uses
ROVINGS. } it in the following beautiful metaphor:—

Sleep that knits up the *ravell'd* sleeve of care.

Macbeth, ii. 2.

E.L.

RAW. Ignorant, inexperienced. Todd appears to have overlooked this sense when he gave "*New*" as the sixth definition of *raw*, and remarked "This seems to be the meaning;" quoting in confirmation that passage in Shakspeare, "I have within my mind a thousand *raw* tricks of these bragging jacks." Mer. of Venice, iii. 4. Our signification evidently accords better, and was doubtless the one intended by the bard; Dryden uses it in the same sense in the following instance:—

Sails were spread to every wind that blew,

Raw were the sailors, and the depths were new.

H.A.D.

RAW-EDGED. Not hemmed, without a SELVAGE, or self-edge. Cloth *raws* out, when it ravel^s out.

C.C. H.A.D.

RAWK. Mist, fog.

The *rawk* o' the hills, and the mist o' the mountains,

Like the reek o' a pot, and the smoke of a kiln,

Draws further off still, while the round sun is counting

His pulses o' light o' the morning so still.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

RAWKY. Misty, foggy; and Clare adds, wet under foot. "*A rawky* day." Current in the neighbourhood of Peterborough. A dialectical variation of *roky*; a good old English word.

Their eyne *rawky*, and all their face impure.

The Ship of Fooles, p. 229.

The day was cold and *rawky*,

Though the April of the year.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

G.&P. H.A.D.

RAWNY or RAWNYING. Tall, thin, and bony; applied to a person answering this description.

J.S. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

RAYLY. Really, used confirmatively at the conclusion of a sentence. "The butter's RIZ again to day, it has *rayly*."

RAYSH. Hasty in temper. A corruption of *rash*.

READ. { The stomach of a calf, salted and dried for
REID. { RENNET. Called both *Reade* and *Keslip* in
 { Brockett.

READ. To strip the fat from the intestines of an animal.
"Read the INNARDS."

J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

REAP. A bundle of corn; as much as is reaped at one stroke of the sickle.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

REAR. See RARE.

REAR. To reach, to expectorate. "She *rears* a good deal of phlegm."

REARING. See LIFTS.

REARING-ALE. Ale given to the workmen employed in erecting a building, when the frame-work of the roof is completed and *reared* upon the walls. Holloway and Halliwell call it *Rearing-feast*; and Hunter notices the same custom in his Hallamshire Glossary, under REAR.

REASTY, REASY, REESTY. Rancid; principally applied to bacon, when it looks yellow and tastes rank and strong. This word, with slight orthographical variations, is found in all the earliest Lexicons. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon of 1440, Harl. MS. 221, has "*Areste* or *resty*," and "*Reesty* as *fleshe* (*Rancidus*)."
Coles, in

his dictionary, treats *Reasie* and *Reasty* as synonymous with *restive*; and some modern glossarists consider it a corruption of *rusty*, and as occasionally adopted in both senses. The Craven Glossarist, after citing various authorities on this point, concludes, "From all which it appears, that neither the orthography nor the meaning of the word was decisively fixed, but that it was used sometimes in the one sense, and sometimes in another. What is the usage in other districts, or in this, formerly, I am not prepared to say; but at present, we never, as far as my observation extends, use *reasty* in the sense of *rancid*." In Northamptonshire it is strictly limited to that signification.

And than came haltyng Jone
And broughte a gambone
Of bakon that was *reasty*.

SKELTON. Elinour Rummung, p. 269. (Richardson).

Lay flitches a salting.
Through folly too beastly,
Much bacon is *reasty*.

TUSSER. Nov.

G. "Reusty." M.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. L.H. "Raisty."

H.S. "Rasty." E.L. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

REASTINESS. Rancidity. The Lexicons referred to in the preceding article, have "*Arestenesse, Restynesse, Restines* of flesshe. *Rancor*."

F.E.A. H.P.

REAVES. See RAVES.

REAVING. See RATHES.

RECKOMAND. Reprimand.

RECKON. To suppose, to imagine, to conjecture. "I reckon I shall go." Count and calculate are both equivalents.

Becomes a warlike people, whom we reckon ourselves to be.

Cymbeline, iii. 1.

G.&P. B.N.C. W.C. H.S. T.G. H.A.D.

RED-BACKS. Cornbrash limestone. I insert this on the authority of my friend the late Dr. Smith, the geologist; who informed me that he heard it used in the neighbourhood of Silveston.

RED-CAP. The goldfinch. *Fringilla Carduelis*. (Linn.) This bird is so designated from the bright red feathers on the forehead. It has also the name of PROUD TAILOR and GOLD SPINK.

The *redcap* hanging over head,
In cage of wire is perch'd a-bed;
Slumbering in his painted feathers,
Unconscious of the out-door weathers.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 6.

The *redcap* often from the hedge would drop,
Perching and twittering on the thistle's top.

Ibid. p. 171.

REDDLE. Red ochre, or oxide of iron, (not carbonate of iron as was inadvertently stated under KEEL,) mixed with grease; used for marking sheep. Called also *rud* and *ruddle*. The name is received from the colour; A.-Sax. *rudu*, rubor.

Some made with *ruddle*, which the shepherd swain
Employs that he may know his sheep again.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 146.

H.H. "Raddle."

REDDY-POLE. See RANNEL-BALK.

H.A.D.

REE. { To cleanse corn which has been winnowed, by
RIE. { working it round into an eddy in a sieve, thereby
RYE. { bringing the chaff, and "sids" (seeds) into the
centre of the sieve, that they may be readily gathered
together and removed with the hand. A labourer who
works it expertly is said to "*rye* it up well." Phillips
has "To *ree* (country word), to handle corn in a sieve,
so as the chaffy or lighter part may gather to one
place." Grose notices it as a Northern word, and
Hartshorne inserts it in his Salopia. Randle Holmes and

Wilbraham give *reeve* as a cognate term. May not this word be an abbreviated variation of *rear*, to raise? or a verbal use of the French *rie*, a waste?

E.L. H.S. H.A.D.

REEING-SIEVE.	}	A fine sieve employed in the above operation.
RIEING-SIEVE.		
RIN-SIEVE.		

E.L. "Reen-sieve."

REECHY. Rancid. Synonymous with REASTY.

REED-BLADE. The *Poa aquatica*. I doubt whether this name is provincial, but it is here introduced to show that it is used as a divination, or spell, by young swains, as appears by the following lines:—

While two young swains in love's discourings fell,
Lapping up love-knot plaits, and many a spell,
With broad green *reed-blades*, where the sheltered midge
Danced in their shadows by the mossy bridge.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 147.

REEK. Steam or vapour, exhalations from heat. "The land is all of a *reek* on a hot day." A.-Sax. *rec*. Jamieson and the Northern glossarists use the word indifferently for all kinds of smoke; we limit it to vapour, as does Moor. Ray, in his preface, says, "it signifies not a smoak, but a steam arising from any liquor or moist thing heated."

Whose breath I hate as *reek* o' the rotten fens.

Coriolanus, iii. 3.

The *reek* o' the pot, and the smoke o' the kiln.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

M.S. B.N.C. H.H. C.C. T.G. H.A.D.

To steam, to emit vapour. "The kettle *reeks*, the water will soon boil." "Wet clothes *reek* before a fire." A.-Sax. *recan*.

B.N.C. C.C.

REELS. Lines of feathers placed across the open ridings in a forest, to keep the deer within certain limits. SEWELL and RINGS are correlative terms.

REEVES. Ropes of onions; more commonly called REIDS.

REEVED. Rowed; applied only to linen that is streaked with dirt. "The gown is so *reeved* with dirt, it will never come clean."

REEZED. Rancid. A kindred term to REASTY.

Or once a week, perhaps, for novelty,
Reez'd bacon soords shall feaste his family.

BP. HALL'S Satires, p. 75.

What academick, starved satyrist,
Would gnaw *rez'd* bacon.

MARST. Scourge, sat. 3. (Nares.)

C.C.

REFUSAL. This word is employed, in opposition to the common usage, to request the offer of any disposable property; as "I hope, when you are inclined to sell, you will give me the *refusal*," *i. e.* the offer, and thereby the opportunity or option of *refusal*. I was not aware of the provinciality of this application of the word, till it was pointed out to me by an eminent solicitor, who informed me that until he came into this neighbourhood he had never heard *refusal* in this sense, and could not understand its meaning.

REID. *See* READ.

REIDS. *See* REEVES.

REINS. Balks, or portions of grass land in arable fields. Not common. This word has probably the same origin as RAINBOW-RIDGES.

RENCH, RENSE. To cleanse linen from soap suds, by washing it in pure, or blued water. Todd says *rench* is the northern form, and both Brockett and the Craven Glossarist sanction it.

T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

RENDER. To melt down any fat substance to purify it and separate the skinny particles; to *render* suet, or to *render* down the LEAF of a pig, for converting it into lard. Jamieson gives to *render*, also to *rind*, *rynde*, "To dissolve any fat substance by the heat of fire." This word is extensively circulated. Tim Bobbin uses it, and Halliwell assigns it to Lincolnshire. TRY is synonymous.

R.N.C. G. M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.S. E.L. T.G. H.P.
H.A.D.

RENEGATE. A reprobate, a runagate.

A false knight and a *renegade*.

GOWER, Conf. Am. b. 2.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

RHEUMATICS, RHEUMATIZ. Rheumatism.

B.N.C. W.app. C.C. L.H. H.A.D.

RHYME. "There's neither *rhyme* nor reason in it." A phrase implying there is neither sense nor argument in what is stated.

RIBBLE-RABBLE. Low disorderly people. "What a set of *ribble-rabble* there are about!" A reduplication of *rabble*.

C.C. H.A.D.

RICK. To sprain the ankle or any other joint. "I gen my back such a *rick*."

RICKETTY. Unsteady, loose-jointed; applied to furniture that is out of repair and will not stand firm. "What a poor old *ricketty* table!" Probably a figurative application of *rickets*, a disease in children, through which the joints become weak and misshapen.

RID. To despatch; when any work goes on quickly, "it *rids* well," or "*rids* off."

G.&P. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To clear away, to disencumber. "*Rid* the things off the table." "*Rid* the ground," *i. e.* pick up the litter. A.-Sax. *Areddan*, to rid away. Som.

W.C. F.E.A. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

3. To remove, to get rid of. "I could hardly get *rid* of him." Often said of an intrusive, unwelcome visitor: hence the common vulgar phrase "good *riddance* of bad rubbish."

Thank God you are *rid* of a knave.

Much Ado, iii. 3.

H.P. H.A.D.

RIDE. To shift, or move about improperly. A badly made gown *rides* up more in one place than another. A figurative expression.

2. "*To ride grub*." A singular phrase employed when any one has taken offence, and shows resentment by sulky silence. "I wasn't pleased yesterday, I mean to *ride grub* to-day."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

RIDE AND TIE. This mode of travelling is effected by two persons riding by turns on a horse; one riding forward and leaving the horse *tied* to a gate, for the accommodation of the other when he arrives, and so on alternately to the end of the journey.

RIDING. A broad greensward road which intersects a wood. It also means the divisions of a royal forest.

And silence reign'd awfully round
When Nelly within the *wood-riding* sat down.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 146. (1820).

Right down the *wood-riding*
Gladly winds the wild bee;
Then through the woodside in
Threading bushes in glee.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

C.C. H.A.D.

RIDING. A demonstration of the feelings of a neighbourhood, in ridicule and reprehension of a wife who tyrannises over her husband; or of a couple, between whom there is unfortunately too much cause for jealousy. Two men, one of them in female attire, with a long basting-ladle in her hand, are drawn about in a cart, sometimes by boys, sometimes by a horse. At intervals they stop before the houses where the exhibition will be most annoying, and there, while the female belabours the man with the ladle, a conversation is carried on between them in imitation of the language used by the offending parties. This public expression of reproof has been witnessed in Northampton, within the memory of the present generation, and is still continued in many of our villages. "*Riding the Skimming-ton*" is another name in some parts of the kingdom for an exhibition of this nature. (See Grose and Jennings's *West Country Dialect*.) Strype, in his edition of Stow's Survey, b. i. p. 258, records one as occurring at Charing Cross on Shrove Tuesday, 1562. It is fully described in Butler's *Hudibras* (part ii. canto 2), and is noticed by Sir Walter Scott in the *Fortunes of Nigel*. Both are evidently an imitation of "*Riding the Stang*," which Jamieson considers the remains of a very ancient observance among the Goths.

RIDGE-BAND. } The chain that passes over the saddle
RIDGOTH. } on a horse's back, to connect or sup-
RUDGET. } port the shafts of a cart or waggon.

Holloway and Halliwell insert *Ridge-band*; it has various other names in different parts of the kingdom. Bishop Kennett, in his MS. Glossarial Collections, Lansd. MS. 1033, gives *Ridgewith*, and assigns it to Cheshire, but it is unnoticed in Wilbraham's valuable little glossary. In Suffolk it is called *ridger*; in Hampshire, *ridge-stay*;

in Dorsetshire, *rudge-tie*; and *ridge-rope* in London and its vicinity.

H.P. H.A.D.

RIE. *See* REE.

RIFF-RAFF. A term applied to a collection or mob of low, idle people. Perhaps a figurative application of RAFF, refuse, rubbish, being the refuse or dregs of the people.

G. H.A.D.

RIFLE. *See* RAPSTICK.

A brusk sythe, and grass sythe, with *rifle* to stand.

TUSSER.

H.A.D.

RIFLED. Vexed, irritated. "She's a poor temper, she's soon *rifled*." When a person is very much provoked, he will say, "It's enough to *rifle* the very stones." Probably a variation of *ruffled*.

RIG. A joke, a trick. "They played him a pretty *rig*." "Don't run your *rigs* upon me." Aptly illustrated from the humorous history of John Gilpin.

Away went Gilpin, neck or nought,
Away went hat and wig,
He little dreamt, when he set out,
Of running such a *rig*.

COWPER.

"The dusty miller" playing many a *rig*.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 28.

G.&P. C.C. H.A.D.

2. A ridge, the elevation between the furrows in ploughed land: hence "*rig* and furrow," the rise and depression in a ploughed field. A.-Sax. *hrig*, a back. That the word was originally used for the back of a person is evidenced by Piers Plowman, who describes the "pedlar with a pack at his *rigge*." And Chaucer says, "With stroke hard and sure, even oppon the *rigg*."

The modern word *ridge* is merely a softened pronunciation of the old word.

Then build thy nest, and hide it well,
'Tween *rig* and thurrow.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

—— the trefoil seeds,
And troubles all the land from *rig* and furrow.

Ibid.

B.N.C. H.H. C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

3. To clothe. "I'll board him, but I can't *rig* him," is often said by a master of his apprentice. "Well *rigged*" is well dressed; and a person gaily dressed is "*rigg'd* out."

Mean was the dress in which the boy was clad,
His friends so poor, and clothes excessive dear,
They oft were foil'd to *rig* him once a-year.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 16.

RIG AND FUR. Ribbed; as "*rig and fur'd* stockings."

B.N.C. F.E.A. "Rigged." T.G. H.A.D.

RIG or RIG-PIECE. The top of a roof, the ridge of a building. Synonymous with RIGGIN. This term seems to be peculiar to this county.

I love to see the shaking twig
Dance till the shut of eve,
The sparrow on the cottage *rig*,
Whose chirp would make believe
That Spring was just now flirting by,
In Summer's lap with flowers to lie.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

H.H. "Rig."

RIG-TREE. The piece of timber, or beam which lies along the top of a roof; the ridge-beam to which the rafters are attached. Called *riggin-tree* in the North: with us it is sometimes called ROOF-TREE; the Scotch also so term it, and have a familiar toast, "I drink your *roof-tree*!" expressive of a wish for health and prosperity to all the family under the roof.

C.C. & H.A.D. "Riggin-tree."

RIGGIN. *See* RIG-PIECE.

G. B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

RIGHT. Obligation. A local transfer of the meaning of the word, from the *right* to require a thing done, to the obligation to do it. "I have no *right* to pay:" *i. e.* I ought not to be compelled to pay.

M.S. F.E.A. H.H. L.H. E.L. H.A.D.

2. Direct, quite. "The stone went *right* in his eye."
"He's not *right* sharp."

M.S. H.A.D.

3. Sane: generally used negatively, as, "He's not *right* in his head."

H.S. "Reet."

RIGHT. A prefix in the following compounds.

RIGHTS. "To put to *rights*," to arrange, to set in order. Applied to repairing linen or clothes, and setting the house in order generally. "I shall be quite SET UP when I get my gowns *put to rights*."

RIGHT-DOWN. Downright. A common transposition.

H.A.D.

RIGHT ON END. } Upright. *See* ANEEND.
RIGHT UP. }

M.S. C.C. F.E.A.

RIGHT-HAND. An efficient helper. A poor woman, lamenting the loss of her son, said she didn't know how she should get on without him, "she had lost her *right-hand*."

Who shall be trusted when one's own *right-hand*
Is perjured to the bosom?

Two Gent. of Verona, v. 4.

RIGHT ON. Positively. "I'm *right on* determined to do it."

F.E.A.

2. Applied figuratively to character. "He's a *right on*, well-meaning, honest man."

RIGHT-OUT. Completely, throughout; equivalent to ALL-OUT.

RIGMAROLE. A long, tedious, round-about, unmeaning story. "What a long *rigmarole* you're telling! what will be the end of it?" A modern colloquialism; also used adjectively, as, "a *rigmarole* tale."

H.A.D.

RILE. To vex, to perplex, to ruffle. A figurative application of ROIL, to disturb, to make turbid.

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

RINE. Rind, or bark: not the skin, as given by the Craven Glossarist.

Strong counter-bane! O sacred plant divine!

What metall, stone, stalk, fruit, flow'r, root, or *ryne*.

SYLVESTER'S Du Bartas.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

RINER. A toucher at the game of quoits; when the player succeeds in throwing the quoit to touch the peg or mark, he often exclaims, "That's a *riner*." A.-Sax. *hrin*, a touch. Ray, in his North Country Words, and Grose and Pegge, give the verb.

W.C. H.A.D.

RING. A row of feathers fastened at equal distances on a line of string, and placed across the open RIDINGS in a forest, to keep the deer within bounds. Halliwell gives "*Ring-a-row*" as a Kentish word, but with us this forestial and incongruous term is limited to Whittlebury Forest, and does not even extend to the forest of Rockingham. REEL and SEWELL are cognate terms.

RING. To strike earthenware, or money, so as to judge

by the sound whether the vessel be without a flaw, or the metal without alloy.

RING or RINGTAW. A game at marbles.

H.A.D.

RINGEWOOD. *See* RANGEWOOD.

RING-FENCE. A property or estate is said to be within a *ring-fence*, when it lies altogether unintersected by other property. Not dialectical, but unnoticed by Todd.

H.A.D.

RINGING-IN. At the conclusion of chiming for church, during which several bells are used, a single one is rung to announce that the service is about to commence, and this is called *ringing-in*. Jamieson notices the term, but describes it differently, and erroneously states that in England it is called clamouring, which he probably mistakes for CLAMMING, usually practised on public rejoicings.

RIN-SIEVE. *See* REEING-SIEVE.

RIP. A rake, a worthless fellow. Jennings appropriates the term to "a vulgar, profligate woman;" we only apply it to a man.

M.S. B.N.C. J.S. C.C. H.H. P.D. H.A.D.

2. A worn-out, half-starved old horse. "A *rip* of a horse."

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A.

3. To bluster and swear impetuously.

F.E.A. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

4. The common pronunciation of *reap* amongst our agricultural labourers.

H.A.D.

RIPPING AND TEARING. Running or galloping furiously, generally using abusive or profane language. "He went *ripping and tearing* up the street."

RIPE. Prepared, ready-primed for any particular purpose.

M.S.

RISING-LARK. The sky-lark. *Alauda arvensis*. (Linn.)

RISS or RIZ. The old preterite of *rise*. "Meat's *riz* again." "The corn-market *riz* to-day." Ben Jonson and other old dramatists use *risse* for *risen*.

ROACHED. A corrupted form of *raught*, the ancient preterite of *reach*. "She *roached* the bacon down out of the rack." Nearly obsolete. There are numerous examples of *raught* in our early poets.

With that he *raught* me ane roll.

DOUGLAS's Virgil.

After thys when he cryed agayn, "I am a thyrst," there ranne one unto hym, and *raughte* hym a spongeful of vinegar, fastened to a rede.

UDALL. Mark, ch. xv.

Sometimes she *raught* him stones wherewith to smite.

SPENSER. Faerie Queen, b. 2, c. 4.

ROAD. "In one's *road*." In the way; an impediment, a hindrance. "You're quite in one's *road*" is a phrase often addressed to a person who, by over-officiousness, retards instead of assists.

2. "Out of one's *road*." A form of expression applied negatively to a person who never loses sight of his own interest, but is always ready to turn every circumstance to his advantage. "They can't catch you at fault, you're never *out of your road*." Jamieson notices these idioms as seeming to be "peculiar to Scotland," but they are equally common in this district.

ROADED or RODY. Rowed, streaked, fat and lean alternated in rows, restricted to the thin part of a flich of bacon. "It's nice *roaded* bacon." Synonymous with SCROWY, a term in more general use.

H.S. "Roded." E.L.

ROAR. To cry loudly, as a passionate child. "How the boy does *roar*!" "He's always a *roaring*."

ROARING. Quick, brisk. "A *roaring* trade." "A *roaring* fire."

C.C. H.A.D.

ROAST. "To rule the *roast*." To take the lead, to have the command.

The new-made duke that *rules the roast*.

2 Hen. VI. i. 1.

2. To joke, to rally. "They're always *roasting* him about his sly visits to a certain lady."

ROBIN. The redbreast. *Motacilla rubecula*. (Linn.) So general is this name, that it has no claim for insertion here, except from being noticed in Brockett's North Country Words. It is one of the many instances of the appropriation of Christian names to the feathered tribe, as already shown under DICKY-BIRD; and it is singular that the custom in this case has extended to other countries as well as our own: for Bewick observes that "about Bornholm it is called *Tomi Liden*; in Norway, *Peter** Ronsmad; in Germany, it is called *Thomas Gierdet*." Though this bird, from its well-known familiarity and fearless confidence in man, strengthened, perhaps, by its association with the tragical catastrophe of the popular old ballad of the Children in the Wood, is an object of endearment to the young, and of sympathy to all, yet under certain aspects it is considered a bird of ill omen. If a robin settle near a house, and at the conclusion of his song gives a chirp, or instead of singing moans plaintively, it is considered the harbinger of death to one of the inmates. This superstition extends very widely; according to Brockett, it prevails in parts of Northumberland and Scotland. For curious

popular poetical legends connected with this bird, see Brand's Pop. Ant. iii. 191.

B.N.C.

ROBIN'S PINCUSHION. The excrescences on the younger branches of the dog-rose, *Rosa canina*, composed of tufts of moss-like fibres.

ROCKING. Walking with alternate sideway motion. "He goes *rocking* along." Halliwell gives this as Northamptonshire.

"ROD IN PICKLE." "ROD IN SOAK."	}	Punishment in store. A threat or admonition to an idle or truant child. "There's a <i>rod in pickle</i> for you:" <i>i. e.</i> a rod in readiness.
--	---	---

C.C. H.A.D.

RODY. See ROADED.

ROFFLING. Disorderly. "A set of *roffling* fellows."

ROGER DE COVERLEY. The final dance at a rustic party.

ROIL. To disturb, to make turbid. "How *roiled* the water looks:" *i. e.* muddy. The word does not occur in the dictionaries; most of the glossarists spell it *Rile*, but we always pronounce it as rhyming to *toil*.

M.S. B.N.C. "Rile." F.E.A. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

ROILING. Fidgetting, climbing about. Bp. Percy, in his MS. Northamptonshire localisms, defines it "tumbling about." "The children are always *roiling* about." "Don't *roil* about so" is often said to restless children. The verb to *Rile* or *Roil* is given by Holloway and Halliwell: it occurs in Chaucer's Romance of the Rose, probably with our signification.

A man shall not suffer his wife to *roile* about.

ROLLOCK. To romp about rudely; very nearly allied to ROILING, and as commonly applied to rude, restless

children. "How you do *rollock* about." "You're always *rollocking* about; you're never quiet." Clare applies this word figuratively to the wind.

The wind is *rollocking* about to-day,
Wild, but not stormy, kissing every feature
Of loveliness, that happens in its way.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

G. C.C. "Rallakin." L.H. H.P. "Ralloek." H.A.D.
"Rollick."

ROLY-POLY. A roll-pudding made by spreading preserve or treacle over paste, and rolling it up lengthways.

H.P. H.A.D.

ROMANCER. One who exaggerates in telling a tale.
"What a *romancer* he is!" "He always *romances* so, there's no believing him."

H.S. H.A.D.

"ROME WAS NOT BUILT IN A DAY." A common proverb regarding lapses of time, or inciting to patience and perseverance.

H.A.D.

ROMMAKING. Playing and romping about very rudely and boisterously. In this sense nearly akin to ROLLOCKING.

And yet she's a *rommaking*, slommaking thing,
And as wild as a filly let loose in the spring;
She'll jump o'er the ant-hills as quick as a bee,
And shout to the birds on their nests in the tree.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D. "Rommuck."

Applied to coarse finery, or lace of a large pattern.
"I wouldn't wear such *rommaking* stuff. Synonymous with ROMPING.

ROMMEL. See RAMMEL.

ROMPS. Rude, boisterous play. "Come, let's have a game at *romps*," is very common amongst children.

ROMPING. See RAMPING.

ROOF-TREE. *See* RIG-TREE.

ROOKERY. A nest of low, disreputable tenements.

ROOM. Place, stead. "He went in the *room* of another."
Pure Old English.

H.H. C.C. H.A.D.

ROOMTHY. Spacious, roomy. "It's a nice *roomthy* house." A.-Sax. *rymthe*. The noun is used by Drayton.

Whose *roomth* but hinders others that would grow.

DRAYTON. Barons' Wars, vi. 26.

—— which spread themselves so wide,

As scarcely hath for fame left any *roomth* beside.

Poly-olbion, s. 8.

ROOT. To undermine, to supplant. "He's in high favour, but I'll *root* him out, if I can."

ROOT or ROOTLE. To burrow, to turn up the ground^d as pigs do with their snouts; or as young children, in making holes in the ground. "Ring the pig, or he'll *root* up all the pebbles." "How them children are *rootling* about!"

H.A.D.

RORATORY. A corruption of oratorio.

ROSE. The moveable end of the spout of a watering-pot, which is pierced with holes, to disperse water equally over plants. Called also SPRIG.

H.A.D.

ROUGH. To trump one suit of your adversary's cards at whist, while your partner trumps another.

H.P. H.A.D.

2. "To *rough* horses." To turn up their shoes in a frost, to prevent slipping.

J.S.add. H.P. H.A.D.

3. "In the *rough*." In dishabille, either in house or person. "I'm sorry you've caught me so in the *rough*" is often said to an accidental visitor. The phrase is also applied to linen that is washed and put by without

starching or ironing. "Put those muslins by in the *rough*."

ROUGH IT. To take things as they come; to be satisfied with whatever accommodation you may meet with in travelling, whether it be *rough* or smooth.

ROUGH MUSIC. A discordant din of cow's horns, fire-irons, warming-pans, &c.; a common accompaniment at a LOWBELLING, which see.

H.A.D.

ROUGH-RIDER. A horse-breaker.

C.C. H.A.D.

ROUGH-SHOD. "You sha'n't ride *rough-shod* over me." A figurative phrase, denoting, You shall not domineer or lord it over me.

ROUGH-SPUN. Blunt, unpolished, clownish. Correspondent with HOME-SPUN.

C.C. H.A.D.

ROUND. This word is used in various metaphorical senses, as in the following phrases:—

1. "To *round* her." To endeavour to obtain information indirectly or by artifice. "I'll *round* her, and get the secret out before I've done with her."
2. "To come *round* her." To gain any object by flattery or deception. "I shall come *round* her, if I stick to her."
3. "To get *round* with." To complete. When a servant has more work than usual, she will say, "I'm afraid I sha'n't be able to get *round* with my work to-day;" or another servant will say, "I must get *round* with my jobs before I can ask to go out."
4. "To bring it *round*." To communicate painful and unpleasant intelligence with caution. "This accident will sadly trouble his wife, but I'll bring it *round* as well as I can."

ROUND-ABOUT. The boundary-hedge of a coppice.

2. Another name for a MERRY-GO-ROUND, which see.

ROUNDLY. Earnestly, severely. "I gave it him *roundly* and soundly."

M.S. H.A.D.

ROUNDS. The steps, or staves of a ladder. The common mode of describing the length of a ladder is to call it "a ladder of so many *rounds*."

ROUNDS-MEN. Labouring poor, who are taken into employment by the farmers in rotation; when they are said to be "on the *rounds*."

ROUSING. Brisk, large. "A *rousing* fire" is a blazing fire. "A *rousing* lie" is a great lie. Our two native poets, Glorious John, and Rustic Johnny, are the only authorities I have met with for this word. Clare spells it, and in conversation pronounces it, *roozing*.

For our wise rabble ne'er took pains to inquire
What 'twas he burnt, so 't made a *rousing* fire.

DRYDEN, Absalom and Achitophel.

The Craven Glossarist inserts the word, and anticipates me in the first illustration from Clare.

Happy, blest to my desire,
I may find a *rouzing* fire.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 33.

A-*roozing* bon-fire blazed at night,
Fireworks were blazing too;
'Twould sarved our house for candlelight
For half the winter through.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

C.C. H.S. P.D. H.P.

ROUSTY. Rusty.

C.C.

ROUT. Fuss, hearty welcome. "When I go to see them, they make a great *rout* wi' me."

2. A great stir or bustle. "They kicked up such a *rout*." If a person is needlessly annoyed or excited by

any particular circumstance, it is commonly said, "What a *roust* she's making over it!" "She needn't make such a *roust* about such a trifle."

P.D. H.A.D.

3. To make a bellowing noise, as cattle.

B.N.C. T.G.

ROUT OUT. To seek or hunt narrowly for any person or thing. "I'll *roust it out*, if I can." "I'll have a good *routing out* before I'll give it up."

H.P. H.A.D.

2. To clear out a place that is in disorder. "We've had such a *routing out*" is a customary expression when preparing for an exchange of servants. "*Roust out* the ashes, or the fire won't burn," is also similarly common; but the word *roust* is most frequently used in reference to dirty cupboards or corners, in other words to slut's holes. Well described by Clare in "The Poet's Wish."

And curse upon that *routing* jade,
My territories to invade,
Who finds me out in evil hour,
To brush, and clean, and scrub and scour.

Rural Life, p. 114.

H.P.*

ROVINGS. }
ROVLINGS. } See RAVLINGS.

ROW. (Pronounced as rhyming to thou.) To scold. "They *rowed* him well." "He got a good *rowing*."

H.P.

ROW-DOW. Sometimes softened to Roo-DOO. The sparrow. *Fringilla domestica*. (Linn.) So denominated probably from some peculiar habit of the bird, imitating the sound of a drum—perhaps tapping or striking with its beak.

ROWENS. The second mowing. When the second crop of grass is eaten on the land, it is called LATTERMATH

and AFTERMATH; when mown and made into hay, it is termed *rowens*. Phillips calls it a country word, and defines it, "Rough pasture full of stubble, or weeds. *Rowen* hay, that is, latter hay." According to Kersey, Ash, Bayley, and Fenning, *rowens* is used for the second growth on *arable* as well as pasture land; and I believe it is so used by Tusser. In some districts it is called *Rawings* and *Roughings*, of which latter term *Rowen* is by the Sussex Glossarist considered a corruption.

Geve to the beestes good *rowen* in plentie,
And stop all the holes where thou canst faultes see.

BARCLAY'S 5th Egloge.

Then spare it for *rowen* till Michael be past,
To lengthen thy dairy no better thou hast.

TUSSER.

R.S.E. "Roughings." M.S. F.E.A. "Rawings." C.S.
"Rowings." H.P. "Rawing." H.A.D.

ROWY. Of uneven texture; like linen cloth which has some threads coarser and thicker than others.

F.E.A. H.P.

ROX. To soften, to decay. The following are amongst the diversified uses of this word. The ground begins to *rox*, when it begins to thaw after a frost; a cough begins to *rox*, when expectoration commences; fruit, when it begins to decay, is said to *rox*.

ROXY. Decaying, as fruit or rotten cheese. "The apples are a little *roxy*." Evans has *Rocksy*, and applies it to "trees carious at the bark." Halliwell inserts *Roxt*, as used in the West for decayed apples and pears. According to Brockett *Rosel*, and according to Holloway *Rosselled*, are cognate terms in the North.

ROYAL-OAK-DAY. The 29th of May. The commemoration of the Restoration of Charles II. See OAK-APPLE-DAY.

B.N.C. T.G.

ROYL. *See* ROIL.

ROYSTON-CROW. The Hooded Crow. *Cornix corvus*. (Linn.) A bird of rare occurrence in the Midland Counties. Sometimes called with us, though less frequently, *Royston Dick*.

H.A.D. "Roiston Crow."

RUB. To joke a person so as to make him imagine you are in possession of some information which he wishes to conceal, and of which you are really ignorant. "I *rubbed* him up well."

2. An indirect reproof or insinuation. "I gave him a good *rub*."

RUBBAGE or RUBBIDGE. Rubbish. Both are old and well-authorised words; though now only current with the vulgar.

For such conceits as these seem somewhat too fine among this *rubbage*, though I do not produce them in sport.

Reliquiæ Wottonianæ, p. 12. (Richardson.)

Buried in *rubbidge* and dust.

BP. HALL. Rem. p. 56.

C.C. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

RUBBER. A coarse sandstone whetstone, for a scythe. *See* RAG. The name is also given to a shoemaker's whetstone.

RUBBERS. "They that play at bowls must expect *rubbers*:" *i. e.* If you reprove others, you must expect reproof in return.

RUBBIDGE. *See* RUBBAGE.

RUBBIDGLY. Ordinary, worthless. "A parcel of *rubbidgly* stuff."

C.C.

RUBBING-POLE. The pole with which the ashes are stirred and dispersed over an oven. In the North Country Dialect it is called *Fruggan*, and in the East Anglian, *Raffling-pole*.

RUBBISH. Foolish, nonsensical talk. "What *rubbish*!"

RUBBLE. Loose, gravelly rubbish; a mixture of stones and earth in a quarry; the refuse of building materials, broken stones, &c. A wall built of rough, unhewn stone is termed a *rubble* wall.

M.S. P.D. A.W. L.H. H.A.D.

RUCK. A wrinkle, or an accumulation of wrinkles.

"Your gown sits all o' *rucks*." Derived by Horne Tooke from A.-Sax. *wrigan*, to cover; and by Holloway from Teut. *hruch*, a wrinkle.

G. M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.S. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A heap; a quantity; a great number. "The old man has *rucks* o' money." "There are *rucks* o' apples in the orchard." "I have such *rucks* o' errands to get through." "There are *rucks* of people gone to the fair." In Bp. Kennett's Glossarial Collections, Lansd. MS. 1033, we find, "*Ruck*, a heap, Worcestershire, where things are said to be all in a *ruck* when they are in a heap." A.-Sax. *hraac*.

W.C. C.C. H.H. L.H. H.S. E.L. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

3. To cower, to shrink down, to huddle together like chickens under a hen.

What is mankynde more unto you yholde
Than is the shepe that *rouketh* in the folde.

CHAUCER's Knight's Tale.

But now they *rucken* in their nests,
And resten.

GOWER, Conf. Am. b. 4.

——— On the house did *rucke*

A cursed owle, the messenger of ill successe and luck.

GOLDING, Tr. Ov. Met. (1567). Todd.

After a moost comely sorte she *rucketh* downe upon the grounde,
not muche unlike the sittinge of our gentlewomen oftentimes here in
Englande.

The Fardle of Fashion. (1555.)

R.N.C. G. W.C. F.E.A. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

RUCKLE. To lie close together ; to work up into wrinkles. "The bandage *ruckles* up so, it must come off."

L.H.

RUCKY. Full of rucks.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

RUD, RUDDLE. *See* REDDLE.

RUDGET. *See* RIDGEBAND.

RUFF. The common rustic pronunciation of roof. A.-Sax. *hrof*.

J.S. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

RUFFLING. Idle, dissolute. "A *ruffling* fellow." By Stat. 27 Hen. VIII. a cheating bully is denominated a *ruffler*.

One fit to bandy with my lawless sons,
And *ruffle* with the commonwealth of Rome.

Titus Andron. i. 2.

RUM. Brockett says a common North Country word for anything odd or queer. It is equally common with us in the same sense. One who is remarkable for his oddities is "A *rum* old stick." "A *rum* old CODJER." Jamieson interprets it *excellent* ; Forby says, it seems to mean generally and indefinitely *great* ; but with us it is always the reverse, being expressive of eccentricity, bordering on moral incongruity.

B.N.C. F.E.A. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

RUMBLE-TUMBLE. A large, old-fashioned, unwieldy carriage.

RUMBUSTICAL. Boisterous, obstreperous, unruly ; almost restricted to rude, noisy, ungovernable children.

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

RUMPLE. To tumble, to wrinkle ; identical with CRUMPLE ; to crease clothes by laying them carelessly. "How you have *rumpled* your dress!" A.-Sax. *hrympelle*, *ruga*.

M.S. P.D. H.P.

RUMPUS. A great noise or disturbance; either individually or collectively. "She made such a great *rumpus* about it." "What's this *rumpus* about in the street?"

J.S. B.N.C.2nd ed. H.P. H.A.D.

RUN. To sew slightly and expeditiously, by taking a number of stitches before drawing out the needle and thread. It is common to *run* the heels of stockings with cotton before wearing them, to strengthen and make them more durable. The Craven Glossarist notices this under *Run-stockings*.

H.A.D.

2. "To *run* down." To rail against; to disparage. To *run* on against him, is an analogous phrase:

H.S. H.A.D.

3. "To *run* in one's head." To have an indistinct recollection of this, or that. "It *runs* in my head that I've heard something about it." To continue to dwell, or reflect upon: as, "It all along *runs* in my head, and I can't get rid of it." This and the two preceding senses, although in common use, appear to have escaped the diligence of Todd, as they are not included amongst his seventy-five meanings of this word.

RUN COUNTER. To go contrary to our wishes.

A hound that *runs counter*, and yet draws dry foot well.

Com. of Err. iv. 2.

M.S. H.A.D.

RUNNING. Rennet, the coagulating liquid used for converting milk or cream into curds, in the making of cheese. Our word appears to be the old original term. A.-Sax. *rynning*, "runnet which turns milk." Palsgrave has "*Ronoynge* of cheese." See MAWSKIN.

M.S. "Runnet." H.P. H.A.D.

2. Consecutively, successively. "Three days *running*."

H.A.D.

3. "Better go twice *running* (consecutively) than once grinning:" *i. e.* a servant clearing a loaded table had better remove the things at twice safely, than, by attempting too much at *once*, have a breakage.

RUNT or RUNTY. A dwarfish person; particularly a child stunted in its growth by short food or over work. "A little *runt*." Tim Bobbin has "*Runt*, a dwarf."

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

RUNTY. Obstinate, surly, ill-tempered; applied both to persons and things.

RUSH. "Not worth a *rush*." A common comparison for anything worthless. The floors of apartments were anciently strewed with *rushes*, from which it is probable this simile originated; a thing is so valueless that it is only fit to be trodden under foot. The familiarity of our ancestors with rushes gave rise to various sayings regarding them.

For till I se the daie springe
I sette slepe nought at a *risshe*.

GOWER, fo. lxxviii. b.

RUST. *See* PAN.

RUSTY. Restive, unruly, as a horse. "The horse is running *rusty*." Also applied personally: "He's turned *rusty*;" *i. e.* he has taken offence, and is stubborn and untractable. Sir Walter Scott uses it in the *Pirate*, vol. iii.:—"Why, even Dick Fletcher rides *rusty* on me now and then." The term prevails in North Yorkshire, Wiltshire, and Herefordshire, and, according to Holloway, in Sussex and Hampshire. Brockett and Forby give *Reasty* as correspondent.

RUTTLE. *See* ROTTLE.

RYELANDS. A quarryman's term for the geological formation called Inferior Oolite. There is a district in Herefordshire called *Ryelands*, and a breed of sheep which bears the name.

RYING-SIEVE. *See* REEING-SIEVE.

RYM. To remove. "*Rym* the chair out of the way."
 "*Rym* them sheep into another field." Not general.
 A.-Sax. *ryman*, "to give place, make way." Bp. Kennett, in his Glossarial Collections, Lansd. MS. 1033, has "*Rym*, to remove;" and Halliwell inserts it as peculiar to Gloucestershire, though it does not appear in the Herefordshire and Gloucestershire Glossary.

Rym thysum men seth, give this man place.

Saxon Gospels, Luke, xiv. 9.

(Craven Dialect, v. *Royn-tres*.)

S.

SACK. "To get the *sack*." To be discharged. A phrase in common use with mechanics or labourers, when turned off by their employers. "He's got the *sack*:" an equivalent expression to giving or getting "the BAG."

H.P. H.A.D.

SAD. Heavy, as opposed to light; close, cohesive; as cake or bread when it is not properly leavened. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, has "*Sad* or hard, solidus." "As *sad* as liver" is a very general proverbial simile.

With that his hand, more *sad* than lomp of lead,

Uplifting high he weened with Morddure,

His owne good sword Morddure to cleave his head.

SPENSER'S *Faerie Queene*, b. ii. c. 8.

G. B.N.C. H.H. C.C. E.L. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

2. Applied to stiff clay soil. Morton, in his Natural History of this county, says, "Clay land is the toughest or most tenacious and the most dense of all our soils; on this account on the Thrapston side they call it *sad-land*." Moist land is *saddened* when it is too much consolidated by the treading of heavy beasts.

SAD-BAD. }
SADLY-BAD. } Very ill.

M.S. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SADLY. Poorly, slightly indisposed. "I be very *sadly*."

SADDLE. To accuse, to charge wrongfully. "He'll *saddle* it upon somebody rather than bear the blame himself."

C.C. H.A.D.

2. "To put the *saddle* on the right horse" is to accuse the right person.

SADDLED. Over-stocked, over-burthened. A gardener would say, "I've so many potatoes, I'm afraid I shall be *saddled* with them;" *i.e.* I shall not be able to dispose of them.

SADDLE-BARS. The horizontal iron bars of a window.

SAFE. Sure, certain. "He's *safe* to have it or get it." "*Safe* as brandy" is a very common phrase.

W.C. B.N.C. L.H. T.G. H.A.D.

SAFE-SKIRT. An outer petticoat to protect the dress of a female on horseback. They were generally made of stuff, or what in olden time, when this habiliment was in vogue, was called tammy. Both the name and the thing have become obsolete since the disuse of pillions.

SAAFT or SOFT. A simple, silly person. "He's quite a *saaft*."

H.S.

2. Silly, foolish. "How *soft* he must have been to have acted so."

SAGS or SEGS. Sedges or reeds. A.-Sax. *secg*. Children amuse themselves by making musical pipes of the hollow tubes, by cutting them below one joint, and partially slitting them to the next joint. By blowing down the tube a monotonous (scarcely a musical) sound is produced.

M.S. H.A.D.

SAG or SWAG. To droop, to bend, to sink in the middle when supported at both ends. Variously applied, generally referable to the primary signification. A load of hay or corn that is badly put on the waggon, leaning on one side, and, as it is termed, top-heavy, is said to *sag*. A thatched roof *sags* when it bends in the middle. A gate or door that gives way at the upper hinge, and drags on the ground, *sags*. To boys riding on a gate it is often said, "Come, you lads, get off that gate, you'll make it *sag*." A person bending from feebleness and declining years is said to *sag*. Shakspeare uses it figuratively in *Macbeth*, and it occurs in other early writers. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, gives "*Saggyng* or *Satlyng*, *Bassacio*," and Pynson, "*Saggyng* or *Satlynge*, *Bassatura*." *Sag* and *Swag* with us are used indiscriminately.

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. H.S. L.H.app. E.L. T.G. H.P.

H.A.D.

SAGGY. Said of a gate that drags or hangs heavily. "That gate wants knocking up at the hinges, it hangs so *saggy*."

E.L.

SAID. Sometimes used in a form which does not admit of definition, and can only be explained by example. "Won't you be *said*?" is a common appeal to an unruly or disobedient child who will not listen to remonstrance or authority.

C.C.

SAILOR. A small insect, known by entomologists as *Cantharis fusca*. (Linn.)

SAINT-MONDAY. A figurative excuse for relaxation and idleness on a Monday. As saints' days were formerly a respite from manual labour, the mechanic or artisan covers his delinquency under the cloak of *canonising Monday*; and too many are tempted to add *Tuesday* to the calendar. One of our modern poets, who so beautifully and faithfully portrays the feelings and habits of the poor, has this apt illustration:—

And here *Saint Monday's* worthy votaries live
In all the joys that ale and skittles give.

CRABBE.

H.A.D.

SALLOW. A species of *Salix*.

M.S.

SALLY. A corrupted abbreviation of the preceding word.

L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To move or run from side to side. "*Sally* and back-stroke" is a term amongst ringers.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SALT. "He can hardly get *salt* to his porridge." A phrase often applied to a person who has great difficulty in maintaining himself by his trade or employment.

SALT-AND-SPOONING. To go jog-trot.

SAMCAST or SEAMCAST. Two ridges of land ploughed together. Hartshorne, under *Sammy*, observes, "*Sam* is a very general prefix in S.-Goth. Isl. and Dan. denoting a joining or union." There can be little doubt, therefore, that our word is of Danish origin.

B.N.C. T.G. H.A.D.

SAMMY. A term of endearment; a favourite. "He's quite *Sammy*." May it not be allusive to the infant Samuel in Scripture? Hartshorne and Halliwell give "*Sammy*, a fool," but it is never so used with us, though

the one term has sometimes an affinity to the other: a favourite child is often so injudiciously indulged, that it is not unfrequently said, "You'll make a fool of that child."

2. Occasionally abbreviated to *sam*. Moist; in a state of perspiration. "My hands are quite *sammy*." "They're all of a *sam*," or, "in a *sammy* sweat." Corn that is soft and will not grind freely is said to be *sammy*.

H.S.

SAMPLER. A piece of canvas on which the alphabet was worked with a needle, or "marked," as it is termed, by a child at school, with her name, age, and residence, to which was generally added a copy of religious verses. The whole was inclosed within an ornamented border; and maternal partiality or vanity usually framed and glazed the performance, and exhibited it at home for the admiration of friends and neighbours. Many in this neighbourhood introduced the following lines written by the late Mr. Trinder for his wife, who established in Northampton a seminary of considerable local celebrity in the middle of the last century.

Jesus, permit thy gracious name to stand,
As the first effort of an infant's hand;
And, while her fingers on the canvas move,
Engage her tender heart to seek thy love;
With thy dear children let her have a part,
And write thy name thyself upon her heart.

The custom is now exploded in fashionable seminaries, and only retained in dame-schools.

M.S. H.H.

SAP. A silly fellow, weak in intellect. Moor suggests that it is derived from the *sap* of timber, which is the weak, insolid part; and this supposition is strengthened by our correlative signification of *soft*.

w.c. "Sapy." M.S. "Sappy."

SAPSCULL. A blockhead, a foolish fellow.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D. "Sap-head."

SAPY. Moist, almost tainted. Restricted to the incipient putridity of meat. *Sappy* and *sapy* appear to be used interchangeably in other counties, though with us they are never so confounded, but kept perfectly distinct. A.-Sax. *sæpig*, sappy, *succulentus*. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, also gives "*Sapy*, or full of sap, *ca-rius*."

H.S. H.A.D.

SARTIN. Certain.

For *sartain*, Sir, he is not.

Macbeth, v. 2.

B.N.C. J.S.add. C.C. P.D. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SARVE HIM OUT. A cant phrase, threatening retaliation or revenge for a supposed injury. "I'll *sarve him out* for it."

SARVER or SERVER. A small scuttle, without handles, for feeding horses. Marshall, in his "Rural Economy," calls it a corn-scuttle.

H.A.D.

SAUCE. Impertinence. "Let's have none of your *sauce*." Also used verbally, as, "He *sauced* his master."

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. L.H. E.L. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SAUCE-BOX. Halliwell says, "A *saucy* fellow;" but we use it much oftener, half playfully, to pert, chattering children.

T.G. H.A.D.

SAUCER-EYED. Having large, full eyes.

B.N.C. C.C. J.S.add. P.D. "Sacer-eyed." H.P. "Sacer-eye." H.A.D.

SAVE-ALL. A false socket in a candlestick for elevating the end of a candle, and thereby burning it to the last, and *saving all*.

H.S. H.A.D.

SAVE-LICK. An excrescence from the briar, placed by boys in their coat-cuffs as a *charm* to prevent flogging.
See BRIAR-BALL.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SAWED. The preterite of the verb to see. "I *sawed* her goo by."

SAWNEY. A silly, half-witted person.

M.S. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SAVATION. Saving. "You may go that road, but there's no great *salvation* in it."

SAY. Declaration of one's opinion; an expression of one's mind. "I've had my *say*, and now I've done with it."
"She will have her *say* out, and you can't stop her."

F.E.A. H.H. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SAY-SO. An assertion without an authority. "A mere *say-so*."

L.H.

SCABBY. Mean, stingy, shabby. "You're a *scabby* fellow."

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SCABBLE. To rough-dress stones by removing the protuberances with a *scabbling-axe* instead of a chisel.

SCABBLINGS. The refuse or chippings of *scabbled* stone.

H.P. H.A.D.

SCALD. A noun of multitude; used opprobriously: as, "the whole *scald* of them." Equivalent to "the whole *boiling*."

F.E.A. H.A.D.

2. To boil partially. "*Scald* the onions before you chop them." Milk is *scalded* in hot weather to prevent its becoming sour. A very common use of the word, though it has escaped Todd and others.

✧ SCALE. To disperse, to scatter, as boys do fruit, by throwing at it in an orchard. A market-woman said

she "should have no plums left, for the boys were allus *scaling* at 'em." Steevens and Collier assign the same meaning to the passage in Shakspeare.

A pretty tale; it may be you have heard it,
But, since it serves my purpose, I will venture
To *scale*'t a little more.

Coriolanus, i. 1.

B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To remove the ashes from the bars of a grate. "Just *scale* the fire." Almost obsolete.

C.C. H.P. "Skail." H.A.D.

SCALE-DISH. A milk-skimmer. Not in general use.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

SCALLIONS. Dr. Whitaker, in his Glossary to Piers Plowman, and others also, define *scallions*, "thick-necked onions." In Scotland a leek is so called; but with us they are the CHITTINGS or shoots of onions in the second year. Called in Oxfordshire, *chevils*; in Somersetshire, *gibbols*.

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P.

SCALPS. The rinds or refuse of turnips, left by the sheep in the field. A boy is often directed to "go and pick up the *scalps* the sheep have left." The use of the word is gradually declining, from the introduction of machinery for the cutting up of the turnips. Todd derives *scalp* from the Teut. *schelpe*, a shell.

SCALY. Synonymous with SCABBY. A.-Sax. *sceale*.

M.S. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SCAMP. A worthless, unprincipled fellow.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

SCANDAL-BROTH. A sarcastic term for tea.

M.S. C.C.

SCANTISH. Limited, insufficient. "I'd a *scantish* pattern for my gown, or I should have made it fuller." "We'd a *scantish* dinner to-day."

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

SCANTLING. A technical term for such light wood as is neither board nor plank. When a pole is split down into four equal portions, each is denominated a *scantling*. They are used as studs for lath and plaster work, or rafters for roofs. According to Jamieson, rafters which support the roof of a projection are so called, and in Leicestershire the name is given to thin joists.

E.L.

SCAPE-GRACE. A term of reproach for a hare-brained fellow.

B.N.C. C.C.

SCARAMOUCH. A fool in motley garb. A name adopted from an Italian posture-master who came to England in 1673.

H.A.D.

SCARCE. Figuratively applied to persons. "You make yourself very *scarce*:" *i. e.* You seldom come and see us. Also used sportively to a person you wish to dismiss.

H.A.D.

SCATTER-BRAINED. Giddy, thoughtless.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

SCHAME. To scheme, arrange, contrive. "I'll *schame* it to be there, if I can."

SCHINCH. A small piece. "Just give me a *schinch*."

SCHINCHING. Niggardly, parsimonious, nipping. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, has "*Chynchy*, or sparyn mekylle, *præparco*."

SCHOLLARD. An archaical pronunciation of scholar. "I'm not much of a *schollard*:" *i. e.* I cannot read and write very well.

'Faith, Sir, I am not so good *schollard* to say much. But I have a letter for you in my pouch; there's plaguy news in't, I can tell you that.

DRYDEN'S Sir Martin Marr-all,

J.S.

SCHOOLING. Education, school-instruction. The Craven Glossarist cites the following illustrations.

You pay more for your *schooling* than your learning is worth.

RAY.

To let the world know, by their fooling,
Their parents gave 'em no mean *schooling*.

Mar. p. 96.

C.C. H.A.D.

SCITHERS. Scissors.

E.L.

SCOME. A mantel-shelf. I have never heard this word used, but I give it on the authority of a person residing in the western side of the county.

SCONCE. The head. Commonly used in familiar language. "Give him a rap on the *sconce*." Shakspeare has it.

Thy bonnet of blew which thou wors't hether,
To keep thy *sconce* from wind and wether.

Jockie is grown a Gentleman.

EVANS'S Old Ballads (1810).

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SCOOM or SCUM. A yellow gelatinous substance found about the roots of old trees—a species of tremella,—called in some places witches' butter.

SCORE. To make parallel incisions, at small intervals, in the cuticle of pork previous to roasting, that the crackling, as it is termed, may be more readily carved.

2. To mark up the reckoning at a public house, which was frequently done on a door-post or screen. Palsgrave gives, "I *score*, I mark upon a taylor or *score*." "Score it, I pray you, for forgetting."

If I return, I shall be post indeed,
For she will *score* your fault upon my pate.

Comedy of Errors, i. 2.

SCOTCH. To deduct, to curtail. "He *scotched* me tuppence appenny out o' my wages." Halliwell gives this as the Lincolnshire meaning.

How ever ye *skotch*,
Save pole and crotch.

TUSSER.

In the oft-quoted passage in *Macbeth*—"We've *scotched* the snake, not killed it,"—I imagine Shakspeare meant that its tail or a portion of the end was cut off, thus curtailing the dimensions without destroying life; but Nares understood the passage as implying simply "to score, or cut in a slight manner;" Moor and others, "to notch or cut;" and Collier, "to wound;" which opinion he considers strengthened by the passage in *Coriolanus*, iv. 5:—

He *scotched* him and notched him like a carbonado.

See here another wretch whom this foul beast
Hath *scotched* and scored in this inhuman wise.

BEAUM. & FL. Knight of the Burning Pestle, a. iii.

2. To stop the progress of any vehicle by putting something under one of the wheels. "*Scotch* the wheel."

Then will I first *scotch* the wheels of it, that it may not run.

DRYDEN'S *Wild Gallant*, i. 1.

G.&P. C.C. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SCOTCH-MIST. A MIZZLING rain; said to wet an Englishman through to the skin.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D. "*Scotch-fog*."

SCOUCH. To stoop. "You'll hit your head agen the beam, if you don't *scouch*." Probably another form of *crouch*.

SCOUR. To FEY out a pond or ditch.

M.S. H.A.D.

SCOUT. To throw dirt or stones at any person or thing. Boys commonly *scout* birds. Similar to pelt.

SCOWL OF BROW. To do a thing by *scowl of brow* is to copy by the eye, and not by measurement.

SCRAB. To scratch or claw.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P.

SCRABBLE. Thorns and briars.

SCRABBLE or SCROBBLE. To climb, to scramble.
 "He *scrobbled* up the tree."

2. To write in an uncouth and unsightly manner; to make unmeaning marks, as boys often do with chalk on a wall or gate. A very old word, occurring in the Old Testament.

He feigned himself mad in their hands, and *scrabbled* * on the doors of the gate.

1 Sam. xxi. 13.

* In the margin of our Bibles explained *made marks*.

SCRABBLE ON. To contend against difficulties in obtaining a livelihood. "I have hard work to get a living, but I hope I shall manage to *scrabble on*." Evans gives *scrattle* as the Leicestershire synonyme.

SCRAFFLE. To be industrious, to struggle hard for a maintenance; nearly correspondent with the preceding word.

B.N.C. C.C. T.G.

SCRAG. The thin, small end of a neck of mutton. "The *scrag-end* of a neck of mutton." *Crag* in Scotland.

M.S. H.H. H.A.D.

SCRAGGLE. A word best explained by the example. A sickly mechanic said, "I'm often so poorly I can hardly *scraggle* along." Another form of SCRABBLE.

SCRAGGLING. Irregular, scattered. Applied principally to a village where the houses are situated irregularly, and at a distance from each other. Also applied to vegetation that grows wild and disorderly. In very general use.

SCRAGGY. Lean, thin, raw-boned. A person with a long, thin, bare neck would be called *scraggy*.

M.S. H.S.

SCRAIL. A meagre, lean, thin animal. "A higler's horse is a poor *scrail*."

SCRAILS. The cuttings of hedges: what the hedger leaves behind. "I've been raking *scrails*." "I be going to gather *scrails*." SPRAWTS is a correlative term.

SCRAILED or SCRAILLY. Standing corn or grass beat down irregularly by wind or cattle is said to be *scrailed*; when a thin crop of corn partially stands erect, the part that falls is *scrailed*, and is "so *scrailly* it can't be reaped."

The hurly burly wind;
And it whirls the wheat about,
The billows swob behind,
And the headaches *scrail* without.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

SCRAMBLING. Exactly synonymous with the foregoing word. Both are strictly local.

SCRANNEL. Lean, thin. "What a poor *scrannel* of a child!"

SCRANNY. Wild, distracted, crazy. "You'll drive me *scranny*" is often said to importuning children or intractable servants. "Things are so awkward and contrary, I shall go quite *scranny*." The Craven Glossarist, being unacquainted with this meaning, has erroneously given the following quotation to exemplify the succeeding sense of the word.

For, had I money like a many,
I'd balance, even to a penny;
Want! thy confinement makes me *scranny*.

CLARE'S Rural Muse (1820), p. 89.

E.L.

2. Thin, lean, meagre. "What a *scranny* beast that is, all skin and bone!" "What a *scranny* neck she's got!"

W.C. B.N.C.2nd ed. C.C. E.L. H.A.D.

SCRASE. A wound on the surface, a slight graze or scratch. "Your shin won't hurt, it's not a deep wound, it's only a *scrase*." "Don't *scrase* the table so with that pin."

E.L. "Scraze."

SCRAT. To scratch. "The dog's *scratting* at the door." An old word. Palsgrave has, "I *scratte* as a beest dothe that hath sharp nayles. The cat hath *scratte* hym by the face."

B.N.C. C.C. H.S. P.D. L.H. E.L. T.G. H.A.D.

2. To strive hard, to labour continuously; to contend with difficulties. "The times are so bad, I've hard work to *scrat* along."

H.S.

SCRAT-BESOM. A short, stumpy besom, nearly worn out: one that *scrats*, instead of sweeping clean.

C.C.

SCRATCHINGS. See FLITTERS.

H.S. E.L. H.A.D.

SCRATCH-WEED. Clivers. *Galium aperine*. See BEGGAR-LICE.

SCRAUNCH. Similar to CRAUNCH, which see. A bow drawn in an awkward, unskilful manner across a violin makes a *scraunching* noise. Moor, Brockett, and Harts-horne all spell it "Scranch."

SCRAWK. To mark, or scratch; particularly applied to an idle, unruly boy, drawing all over a table with chalk. "Don't *scrawk* the table so." Evans gives this word in the sense of "to scream."

C.C. H.A.D.

SCRAUM. To sprawl or spread out the arms and legs at full stretch; to reach anything awkwardly and greedily. Also applied to a large, spreading pattern. "Don't paper your room with such a *scraumy* pattern." Evans

explains this word, "to scramble, or throw for a scramble."

And a crouch undir his armys; with hondis al *forskramyd*.

CHAUCER, Hist. of Beryn.

SCRAWLY. Thin and entangled as corn: nearly allied to

SCRAILLY. I insert this word from Marshall's Rural Economy, who is my only authority for its use.

H.P. H.A.D.

SCRAWNING. Swallowing. He's a long while a *scrawn-ing* it down."

SCREED. A shred or fragment. A.-Sax. *screade*.

When *screeds* of sunshine gild the little yard,

A hive-bee humming by the wall is heard.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

And Autumn with her sunny *screeds* is done.

Ibid.

B.N.C.2nd. ed. J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A technical term with plasterers for a narrow line of mortar about three or four inches wide, at each end of a first coat of plaster, for the purpose, when dry, of supporting a long ruler, whilst passing it over the mortar in the operation of levelling or *screeding* the second coat of plaster. A master commonly says to his man, "Just pop those *screeds* down, and they'll be a-drying."

SCREEDING. Placing a long ruler on two *screeds* when sufficiently dry to bear its pressure, and drawing it gently over the second coat of plaster, for the purpose of removing the superfluous mortar, and thereby getting a level surface.

SCREIK or SCRIBE. To shriek, to scream, to squeal.

The little babe did loudly *scribe* and squall.

SPENSER, Faërie Queen, b. 6, c. 4.

H.H. H.A.D.

SCREEN. See LONG-SETTLE.

SCREW. A person who drives a hard bargain. "He's a regular *screw*." A lady who is niggardly or stingy in her household expenditure would be called a *screw*. Halliwell gives "*Screw*, a miser." We also use it verbally.

SCREWING. Miserly, niggardly. In making a bargain it is often said "He's so *screwing* I can get nothing by him."

SCREW LOOSE. If there be any little disagreement or estrangement between friends, it is commonly said "There's a *screw loose* somewhere."

SCREWZER. An unwelcome, intrusive visitor; a parasitical person. A metaphorical application of the screw, an insinuating instrument.

SCREWZING. Incroaching; intruding; spunging; remaining an uninvited and unwelcome visitant. "He's always going *screwzing* about."

SCRIBBLING-LARK. The yellow-hammer. *Emberiza citrinella*. (Linn.) A name derived from the irregular, black, zig-zag lines upon the egg, resembling writing. For the same reason it bears the name of WRITING-LARK.

SCRIBE. A thin, meagre, lank person or animal. "A poor *scribe* of a horse." *Scrail* is similarly applied to animals.

SCRIBING-IRON. The instrument used for branding or marking trees. The Craven Glossarist and Halliwell give it Scriving-iron, but our form appears the more correct, as it is obviously formed from the verb *scribere*, to write.

SCRIGG'D. Forced; squeezed out. "She *scrigg'd* a goodish drop of juice out of the currants." Clare uses this word figuratively.

Then sat in terror down again,
 Invok'd the Muse, and *scrigg'd* a strain;

A trifling something glad to get,
To earn a dinner or discharge a debt.

Rural Life, &c. (1820) p. 117.

H.A.D.

SCRIGGLE. To writhe or struggle. Another form of wriggle.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To scrawl. A person who writes a light, scratchy, irregular hand, is said to write a *scrigging* hand.

SCRIGGY. Scratchy. Applied to a pen that spirtles.

SCRIKE. See SCREIK.

SCRIM. A small bit of any edible. "Give me just a *scrim*." Halliwell gives "*Crim*, a small portion of anything," and "*Scrimmity*, close, stingy," both used in the west.

SCRIMMAGE.	}	A scuffle, an argument. "We had
SCRIMMIDGE.		such a <i>scrimmage</i> ." Mere dialectical
SCRIMMUDGE.		corruptions of skirmish. Also used verbally.

B.N.C. F.E.A. C.C. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SCRIMP. A very small piece; and, in some places in the county, a very small measure. This noun seems to be peculiar to us. Brockett gives the verb *scrimp*, "to spare, to scant;" the adjective, "short, scanty, little." Jamieson *scrimp*, "limited, not ample." The Devonshire Glossarist, *scrimpy*, "mean, scant, miserly." "To *scrimp*, to give short measure, or short commons." All according with our noun. The Devonshire Glossarist has also *scrimp*, "a skin-flint, a miser."

B.N.C. P.D. H.A.D.

SCRIMPTION. A very small portion; a miserable pittance.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SCRINCH. A small bit. One child would say to another, "Give me just a *scrinch* of your cake." SCRIM, SCRIMP, SCHINCH, and SCRINCH are all kindred terms.

SCRINGE. To shrink from pain; the dressing of a wound for instance, or the infliction of bodily chastisement. A.-Sax. *scringan*, *arescere*.

F.E.A. E.L. "Scrunge." H.P. H.A.D.

SCRINNY. To squeeze close, to press. A witness said in the County Court, "I had to *scrinny* up close to the wall, or else the horse would have ridden over me."

2. Selfish, narrow-minded. "She's a *scrinny* old woman."

— SCROBBLE. See SCRABBLE.

SCROG. A stunted bush or shrub. So defined by Jamieson; but restricted to black-thorn by Ray and Bishop Kennett. Lansd. MS. 1033, A.-Sax. *scrob*.

To write of *scroggis*, brome, hadder, or ramell.

Doug. Virgil.

They cutt them down two summer *shroggs*

That grew both under a breeze.

PERCY. Reliques, ed. 1794, vol. i. p. 89.

R.A.C. G. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SCROGGY. Overgrown with low underwood. Halliwell supplies the subjoined early illustration:—

The way toward the cité was stony, thorny, and *scroggy*.

Gesta Romanorum, p. 18.

And lyke as sum tyme in the summeris drought,

Quhen windis rysis in the north or south,

In sere placis, the herde at hys desyre

Among the *scroggy* rammell settis the fyre.

Doug. Virgil, p. 330.

C.C. F.E.A. H.P.

SCROOT. A weak, sickly child of delicate constitution.

"A poor little *scroot*." An old word not yet obsolete.

Croot, according to Jamieson, is identical in Scotland.

SCROW. A line, scrawl, or scratch. A word that appears to be confined to the midland district, as the Leicestershire Glossarist is the only one who notices it, and he defines it "mark or scratch."

E.L.

SCROWY. Rowed or rowy. Bacon that is nicely rowed with fat and lean, is termed *scrowy* bacon."

— SCROUGE or SCRUDGE. To crowd; to squeeze; to compress. "We were so *scroug'd* and *squeeg'd* I thought I should ha' SWOUNDED." "If you *scrudge* the sugar well, you'll make the basin hold it." Used also participially, as "Don't come *scrudging* agen me." There are numerous dialectical variations of these words: Brockett gives *scrudge*, *scrounge*, and *scrunge*; Moor, *skrowj*; the Herefordshire Glossarist, *scrouch* and *scrowge*; and Halliwell *schrouge*, *scroodge*, and *scrouge*. This latter spelling prevails in Wiltshire and Sussex, and also in America.

G. B.N.C. L.N. A.W. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SCRUB. A worn-out garment. "Don't wear that old *scrub* any more."

SCRUBBY. Mean, shabby: variously applied. "A *scrubby* fellow." "A *scrubby* action." "A *scrubby* coat."

SCRUDGE. See SCROUGE.

SCRUDGELING. Squeezing through a narrow aperture. A schoolboy, pressing and squeezing himself between two desks, said "he went *scrudgeling* through."

SCRUMP. A mean piece.

SCRUNTY. Short, stunted. Jamieson gives *scrunt* as a noun and adjective.

B.N.C. C.C.

SCUD. A hasty flying shower. "It was only just a *scud*."

H.S. H.A.D.

SCUDDING. Passing over quickly; driven by the wind. "We may have a *scudding* shower, but I don't expect much rain."

SCUD. A quarry-man's term for rubbly stone.

SCUFF.

SCUFT. } All used for the back or nape of the neck.

SCRUFF. }

M.S. "Skruff." W.C. "Skuff." C.C. F.E.A. H.S. H.P.

H A D.

SCURRY. Haste; impetuosity; precipitate flight. "He's gone off full *scurry*." Halliwell gives "*Scur*, to move hastily," as used in Yorkshire.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SCUTLING. Skulking or shrinking down, to elude observation or detection. "He *scuttled* down under the hedge." "He went *scutling* along behind the wall."

SCUTTUCK or SKERRICK. A little bit; of little worth; of the lowest value. "I wouldn't give a *skerrick* for him."

B.N.C. "Scuddick." H.A.D. "Scurrick."

SCUTTER. To run briskly in pursuit. "He *scutter'd* along after him as quick as he could."

H.P.

SEAMCAST. *See* SAMCAST.

SEARCH. To penetrate. Any lotion or embrocation that gives pain on application to the part affected is said to *search* it.

H.S. H.A.D.

SEARCHING. Keen; piercing; penetrating. "A *searching* wind." "A *searching* rain." Common in the United States, according to Bartlett's Americanisms.

C.C. H.A.D.

SEARCHERS. Females appointed to inspect the dress of a corpse, to ascertain whether the law for the protection of the woollen trade was violated by interring the body in any other material. The name and the custom have sunk into disuse since the repeal of the act.

H.A.D.

SEBEN. Seven.

SEBLET or SIBLET. The basket from which the sower casts his seed-corn. The first form of this word prevails on the western side of the county; the latter on the north-western: they are both evidently dialectical vitiations of the A.-Sax. *sæd læp*. *Siblet* occurs in an

advertisement in the Northampton Mercury, 1832. HOPPER is another name here, as well as elsewhere, for this seed-basket.

J.S. "Seed-lip." F.E.A. "Seed-lep."

SEBLET CAKE. A seed cake with which ploughmen were feasted at the conclusion of the wheat-sowing. This custom was in some places observed till within these few years; but I believe it has now fallen into desuetude. I have been told that, some fifty years ago, it was customary on All Souls' Day, for people to send *seed cake* to their various friends, which were called soul-cakes; and, as this was the period when wheat-sowing usually ended, it is probable both these observances have the self-same origin. The Lansdowne MS. 1039, No. 8, has the following notice of this practice, "It was an old English custom to provide *seed cakes* to entertain the ploughmen after the season of sowing wheat, which was commonly on All Saints' Night." (All Souls' is the following night.) And Tusser in allusion to it says:—

Wife, som'time this week, if y^e weather hold cleare,
An ende of wheate soweing we make for the yeare;
Remember you therefore, though I do it not,
The *seed cake*, the pasties, and furmenty pot.

SECKET. A term of contempt for a child. Brockett inserts it, and Halliwell assigns it to Lincolnshire. I do not give it on my own authority, and I believe it is of rare occurrence with us.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SECONDS. Wheaten flour of an intermediate quality, between the finest and the coarsest. Shakspeare uses it in one of his sonnets. "That is not mixed with *seconds*." See GRUDGEONS.

C.C. H.II. H.S. H.A.D.

SEE. The present tense is frequently used for the pre-

terite. "I *see* him go by yesterday." Used by Shakspeare and other early writers.

C.C.

SEE TO. To attend to, to look after. "I've got all the children to *see to*, now mother's dead, and I'll *see to* 'em well." The same expression is found in Jamieson, and amongst the Americanisms.

SEEABLE. Visible; to be seen. "I call'd, but he was not *seeable* to-day."

H.A.D. "Seable."

SEETHE. To steep; to infuse. "If you'll put the tea in the pot, it 'll *seeth* while the toast's made." A.-Sax. *seothan*. This word is not admitted into any other glossary, and perhaps ought not to have found a place here; but as it differs slightly from the commonly received meaning, and it is becoming obsolete, it was thought worthy of notice.

Madly his wife sitteth before the fyre
All black and smoky clothed in rude attire;
Seething some grewell and stirring the pulment
Of pease or frument, a noble meat for Lent.

BARCLAY'S 5th Egloge.

How pleasant when the heat of day is bye
And *seething* dew empurples round the hill
Of the horizon, sweeping with the eye
In easy circles wander where we will.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 202.

A bean field full in blossom smells as sweet
As Araby, or groves of orange flowers,
Black-eyed and white and feathered to one's feet;
How sweet they smell in morning's dewy hours
When *seething* night is left upon the flowers.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

SEED. Pegge says "*See'd* passes currently with the common people in London, both for our perfect tense *saw*, and our participle passive *seen*, as branches of the verb to *see*. They will say, for instance, 'I *see'd* him

yesterday,' and 'He was *see'd* again to-day.' " So it is with us universally, amongst the vulgar and illiterate, in the towns as well as villages.

B.N.C. C.C. H.S. T.G. H.A.D.

SEEDY. Shabby, partially worn, poverty-stricken, faded either in health or respectability of appearance.

I am a *sede foule*, one the unworthiest.

CHAUCER'S *Assemble of Foules*.

H.A.D.

SEEM TO. Apparently; to all outward appearance.

"He's a nice person to *seem to*."

SEEMTH. Appearance. "By the *seemth* of the thing."

SEEN. Saw. "I *seen* him t'other day." A vulgarism common in America, as well as in Northamptonshire.

E.L.

SEE-SAW. A favourite childish amusement. Two children balancing each other at opposite ends of a plank, placed on a fulcrum: alternately swaying each other up and down. HIKEY is synonymous.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SEGS. Sedges, rushes. A.-Sax. *secg*, *carex*. See SAGS.

"A place where *segges* do grow." Barret. Alv. (1580.)

Hid in the *segges*, fast by the river's side.

Weakest goes to Wall, sign. c. 4 b. (Nares.)

I wove a coffin for his corse of *seggs*,

That with the wind did wave like bannerets.

Cornelia, O. Pl. ii. 266. (Nares.)

M.S. B.N.C. 2nd. ed. C.C. H.S. T.G. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SEGGY. Full of sedges.

C.C.

SELL. A common contraction for *self* in the compounds *mysell*, *himsell*, *hissell*, *hersell*, *yoursell*.

They dig out fro' the dells,

For their bairn's bread, wives, and *sells*.

BEN JONSON.

R.N.C. G. W.C. B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SELVEDGE. } The edge of cloth. The word occurs
 SELVIDGE. } in Florio. "*LISTA*, a *list*, a *selvage* to any
 cloth." The Craven Glossarist ingeniously derives it
 from *self* and *edge*, *i. e.* self-edged, not requiring a hem.

C.C. T.G.

2. A term used by workmen for the joints or partings in the beds of stone in a quarry.

3. The slight crust on the sides of a loaf of bread. Not common.

SEN. Self. The Craven Glossarist considers it a contraction of the old word *selven*. Clare sanctions this vulgar provincialism.

And soon as chance offer'd that she could begin,
 She 'gan weigh her doubts to her *sen*.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 157.

And, go the week about, nine times in ten
 Ye'd find her house as cleanly as her *sen*.

Ibid. vol. ii. p. 96.

H.H. C.C. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SEOX. Six. A vulgar pronunciation, but pure Saxon.

SERVER. *See* SARVER.

SERVE. "To *serve* him out," is to repay, to retaliate.

SESSARARA. A good beating or scolding. Moor and Halliwell give *Siserara*, a hard blow.

SESS. A kind of peat turf. Obsolete, I believe; my acquaintance with this term is only through Morton's Natural History.

SESS-POOL. *See* CESS-POOL.

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.S. H.P.

SET. A collective term. It would be said of a number of disreputable persons. "They're a bad *set*." "What a *set* there is of them." If a family are singular in their appearance or conduct, they would be called "a queer *set*."

2. To put milk in a pan, that the cream may rise.

"Have you *set* the milk," is a common inquiry of a dairy-maid, after the milk is brought in from the cow.

3. To bind. "The gravel *sets* well."

SET. "A dead *set*." A determined effort on the part of one or more individuals; whether it be to defeat an antagonist, or to gain a particular object.

H.A.D.

SET-DOWN. To mortify; to humiliate; to reprove. "I *set him down* nicely."

2. A rebuke for impertinence or improper assumption. "I gave him a good *set-down*," *i.e.* a good reproof.

B.N.C. 2nd ed. C.C. H.A.D.

SET-OUT. A handsome, bountiful entertainment. "They gave us a capital *set-out*."

2. To plan or contrive work. "Let's *set it out* before we begin, and see if we have stuff enough."

SET POOR LIGHTS. To *set* bad examples.

E.L.

SETS. Marshall in his Rural Economy notices this word as a Northampton localism, and defines it "plants of potatoes," &c. but in this district it is used for small potatoes, or such portions of the large ones as contain what is termed an eye, and which are *set* in the ground to produce the plant, and not to the plant itself. The word is also applied to blackthorn and whitethorn, used for hedges. I am not aware that any other plant is so called; and, so well understood is this restriction, that if an order is given in the neighbourhood of the forest for a hundred of *sets*, it would be supplied by a hundred of QUICKS or thorns.

SET-TO. A pugilistic combat. Figuratively an argument or contest in words. This latter sense is given in Brockett and the Craven Dialect.

SET-UP. To be firm, resolute, unyielding. A master

often says of a refractory lad, "I must *set up* with him, and show him who's master."

2. A verb expressive of self-exaltation. "She *sets herself up* for somebody." Often used as a noun in speaking of an assuming person. "Who's she? a little *set-up* thing."
3. Supplied, satisfied. "I'm *set up* with potatoes for the winter." "I shall be quite *set up* when I get my new gown."

SETTON-ON. Stunted in growth, ill thriven. *Set* is used with the same import.

B.N.C.

SETTER. A straight piece of wood, placed between the shoulders of a slaughtered animal. *See* BACK-SETTER.

SETTING-STICK. A dibble. "Debbyll or *settyng stycke*." Huloet, 1552.

SETTLE. A bench let into a wall to form a seat, either in the chimney corner of old-fashioned farm houses, or outside the door of a village public house. *See* LONG-SETTLE. A.-Sax. *setl*. An archaism since the time of Wicliffe.

M.S. B.N.C.2nd ed. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SEWELL. A line of feathers fastened on twine and placed a foot or two from the ground in the open parts of a forest, to keep the deer within bounds. REEL and RING, as before noticed, are cognate terms. Bullokar and Blount define *sewell*, "A paper clout or any thing hanged up to keep a deere from entring into a place." The "Glossographia Anglicana Nova" also gives it as "A term used by hunters, and signifies anything hanged up to keep a deer from entering a place." It occurs in Coles as "a scare-crow." In the vicinity of Rockingham Forest it is used metaphorically, when a person has forsaken an old habit. A gentleman observing a friend taking a glass of wine who had been an habitual water-

drinker for many years, exclaimed "So you've broke *sewell* at last."

H.A.D.

SEWER. A buck three years old.

SEWERELL. A buck four years old. May not the name of this animal have suggested the designation of SEWELL for the feather-line fence described above?

SHAB-OFF. To sneak away, to walk away without ceremony, to go off in a *shabby* manner.

B.N.C. C.C. P.D. H.A.D.

SHACK. To shake, of which it is only another form. A.-Sax. *sceacan*.

Shack off all pruyde.

Piers Ploughman.

C.C. E.L.

2. To shed, as over-ripe corn.

3. Inferior refuse corn; what is termed offal-corn; the refuse of the TAILINGS, or the shaken grain that remains on the ground after harvest and gleaning; also in the woodlands, the acorns or mast under the trees.

M.S. F.E.A. H.A.D.

4. To send pigs or poultry to *shack*, is to turn them into the stubble-fields to eat up the loose or *shaken* corn. Phillips says, "*Shack*, in Norfolk and Suffolk, is the liberty of winter pasturage, the lords of manors having the privilege to feed their flocks of sheep at pleasure upon their tenants' land during the six winter months. Also a custom in Norfolk to have common for hogs from the end of harvest till seed-time in all men's grounds. Whence, to go at *shack* in that country signifies as much as to go at large." In allusion to this custom, Tusser says,—

Yoke never thy swine while y^e *shack* time doth last.

M.S. F.E.A. H.A.D. H.P.

5. An idle, low fellow. "A worthless *shack*." "He's always on the *shack*." Provincial in America. See a long note on the origin of this term in Evans's Leicester-shire Glossary.

F.E.A. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

6. A peculiar loose way of walking or riding: also a gentle trot. "He always goes of a *shack*."

7. To rove, or lounge about idly. "He's a good-for-nothing chap, he's always *shacking* about."

F.E.A. E.L. H.A.D.

SHACK-BAG. A shabby fellow, lurking and prowling about; a ragamuffin. Forby says, "Properly, one who carries a bag, *shaking* it to induce others to put something in, and holding it ready to receive what he can pilfer." We also so use it.

SHACKLING. Idling; loitering about. One who will not settle to any employment, but goes about seeking work, and will not do it, is said to go *shackling* about.

M.S. J.S. H.A.D.

SHACKLE. An iron loop, moving on a bolt.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SHACKY. Shabby, ragged, badly clad. "He looks very *shacky*."

F.E.A. H.P.

SHADE. "In the *shade*:" *i. e.* suffering from some stigma on the character. See Behind a CLOUD.

SHADY. Shy. "The child's so *shady*, she won't speak."

SHAFFLING (rhyming with jostling). Hobbling, walking with an awkward, irregular gait. "How he goes *shaffling* along!"

SHAG-MA-RAG. A mean person. Other Glossarists have *Shab-rag* in the same sense.

SHAIL. "To *shail* about." To move as if the bones were loose in their sockets. Todd calls this a low word, and illustrates it from L'Estrange:—

Child! you must walk strait, without skewing and *shailing* to every step you set.

F.E.A.

SHAKES. "No great *shakes*." Nothing extraordinary: of little value; indifferent in health or spirits. A vulgar though common phrase: the same in America.

B.N.C. 2nd. ed. F.E.A. H.P.

SHAKE-UP. A reprimand; a lecture. "I gave him a good *shake-up*." "*Shake him up* well; he deserves it." This must have been Shakspeare's meaning in "As You Like It," i. 1, when Orlando, complaining of his brother's conduct to him, says to Adam, "Go apart, and thou shalt hear how he (Oliver) will *shake me up*."

SHAKEN. Enfeebled, weakened. "This last illness has *shaken* him sadly."

So *shaken* as we are, so wan with care.

1 Hen. IV. i. 1.

SHAKY. Feeble, weak.

H.A.D.

SHAMBLE. Used plurally. The frame of wood that hangs over a shaft-horse in a cart. Halliwell assigns it to Oxfordshire.

SHAMBLING. Awkward in gait, lolloping, as if the legs were weak; applied to both persons and animals. "They go *shambling* along."

If I had not known you casually by your *shambling* gate.

DRYDEN'S Don Sebastian.

G.&P. F.E.A. H.S.

SHAMMING ABRAHAM. Counterfeiting illness or infirmity.

T.G. H.A.D.

SHANK. "The *shank* of the day," towards evening. Halliwell gives "*Shank*, dusk, twilight," as adopted in Yorkshire; which sanctions our expression.

C.C.

2. The crooked handle of a scythe. Called also SNATHE or SNED.
3. Thick pieces of wood cut from the thorns in hedges; the bottom end of the thorn. Bailey and some other lexicographers give "*Shank*, the stalk or stem of a plant."

SHANKS' PONEY. A low phrase, signifying travelling on foot, or, as it is sometimes said, on ten toes. Harts-horne inserts it; Moor has *Shank's Nag*; Jamieson, *Shank's Nagie*; and Craven Dialect, *Shank's Galloway*.

SHANNY. Shame-faced. Moor, Forby, and Halliwell have this word with a very opposite meaning—"Wild, frolicksome." Skinner gives *Shan* as used in Lincolnshire for shame-facedness, which agrees with us; and derives it from the A.-Sax. "*Scande*, confusio, verecundia."

And downcast eye and blush of *shanny* lass

Had every power his heart to hold in thrall.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 32.

SHA'NOT. SHAIN'T. SHATT'N.	{	All abbreviated vitiations of <i>shall not</i> . The latter is frequently used by an indulgent mother when a child is reluctant to do something she wishes. "Well, then, it <i>shatt'n</i> do it, there's a dear."
----------------------------------	---	---

SHANTY. Gay, showy. Perhaps a corruption of Janty, as suggested by Todd, who gives the following example.

Each *shante* spark that can the fashion hit.

Epilogue to Sir Courtly Nice (1735).

To which may be added—

'Tis thine for sleeves to teach the *shantiest* cuts,
 Give empty coxcombs more important struts,
 Prescribe new rules for knots, hoops, manteaus, wigs.

WARTON. Fashion; a Satire.

B.N.C. F.E.A. "Shaunty." C.C. H.P. "Shawnty."

H.A.D.

SHARKING. Cheating, or eagerly over-reaching in making a bargain: nearly akin to swindling. Nares says, "*Shark*, either as substantive or verb, is hardly obsolete." With us it is in very common use. Holloway and Halliwell give the verb.

G.

SHARP. Quick in motion. "Come, look *sharp*," is said to excite a person to expedition. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon has "*Scharpnese*, swiftness." This word is also used negatively when intellect is deficient, as, "The boy is hardly *sharp*."

B.N.C. C.C. T.G. E.L. H.A.D.

SHARPS. A refuse kind of wheaten flour, ground coarsely, with a portion of bran in it; formerly called GRUTCHEONS or GRUDGEONS, which see.

B.N.C. C.C. H.H. H.S. H.A.D.

SHARROG. See SHEAR-HOG.

H.A.D.

SHATTERY. Loose, not compact. "The chairs are very *shattery*."

C.C. W.C.

SHATTERED. Synonymous with SHAKEN as applied to persons.

SHAUMING. Trampling, treading upon. "You're *shauming* all over it" is often said when any one is treading upon anything so as to injure it. Jamieson has "*Shaum*, the leg or limb;" from which our word has probably originated.

SHAVE. A thin slice. "Just give us a *shave*." Jamieson has the word, and gives the following illustration.

She begs one *sheave* of your white bread,
And a cup of your red wine.

JAMIESON'S Popular Ballads, ii. p. 124.

SHAVES (pronounced as rhyming to calves). Shafts.

H.S. H.A.D.

SHAVER. A keen tradesman, one who takes selfish advantage in a bargain

SHAY. A chaise: hence *shay-lad*, or *shay-boy*, a post-boy or driver of a chaise.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

SHEAR-HOG or SHARROG. A one-year-old sheep after the first shearing; a hog that has been shorn. *See* SHEEP.

E.L. H.A.D.

SHEARING-POSIES. *See* CLIPPING-POSIES.

SHEEDINGS. Shaken corn; such as sheds without handling, from being over-ripe, and remains on the ground after harvest and gleanings are over. A.-Sax. *sceaden*.

SHEELY. The chaffinch. *Fringilla cœlebs*. (Linn.)
See PEA-FINCH.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SHEEP. Universally pronounced SHIP in the rural districts. As the descriptive terms of sheep vary in different parts of the kingdom, I shall here insert them as they were given me by an eminent agriculturist in this county.

The *Ewe*, or female lamb, after Michaelmas, or going to turnips, till the first shear day, is called a *Ewe Teg*.

The *Wether*, or male lamb, after Michaelmas, till the first shear-day, is a *Wether Teg*.

The yearling sheep after shear-day is called a *Teg*, *Hog*, *Hoggerel*, *Shear-hog*, *Sharrog*, or *Shearling*.

The *Ewe Teg*, till next lambing-time, or till the second shear-day, is a *Theave*, commonly pronounced *Thayve*.

The *Wether Teg*, till next lambing-time, or second shear-day, is a *Shear-hog*, *Sharrog*, or *Shearling*.

The *Theave*, till the third shear-day, is a two-shear *Ewe*.

The *Shar-hog* or *Shearling*, till the third shear-day, retains the same name, and afterward is a *Wether*.

Female sheep after that age are called *Ewes*; and male sheep after that age, *Wethers*.

The fleeces of the first shearing, amongst wool-dealers, are called indiscriminately *Tegs* or *Hogs*. The fleeces of the second and every succeeding shearing of the male sheep are called *Wethers*, and of the female sheep, *Ewes*.

SHEEP-CUB or SHEEP-HUT. A temporary shelter for sheep in the field: differing from a *HURK* in being covered over at top.

SHEEP'S-EYE. "To cast a *sheep's-eye* at any one," is to give a leering, indirect glance; quite opposed to a "wanton look," as described by Halliwell. Cotgrave's "Affectionate winke, a *sheepes eye*," more nearly agrees with our most frequent application of the phrase. In the infancy of an unrevealed attachment between two rustic lovers, it is frequently said "He's casting a *sheep's-eye* at her." An archaical phrase. Dryden sanctions it in his "Don Sebastian."

So you may cast a *sheep's-eye* behind you.

SHEEP-HURK. A permanent winter fold. See *HURK*.

SHEEP-HUT. See *SHEEP-CUB*.

SHEPHERD. To superintend. "He's an idle chap if I don't *shepherd* him well."

SHEEP-RACK. The starling. *Starnus vulgaris*. (Linn.) *Sheep-back* would have been a much more appropriate name, as this bird is in the habit of sitting on the back of sheep to search for ticks, which are so troublesome to

these animals. For the same reason it bears the name of *Sheepster* in some counties. *

SHEEP-SHEARING-POSIES. See CLIPPING-POSIES.

SHEEP-TRAY. A trough for feeding sheep in the field; principally used for oats.

2. A large hurdle. It is in this sense I imagine, rather than the preceding, that Clare adopts it.

And ride on *sheep-trays* from the fold,

A race-horse speed to Burton-hold.

Shep. Cal. p. 10.

Witches on *sheep-trays* gallop by.

Ibid. p. 15.

SHELLY. Slaty, CHIZZELLY stone, such as breaks into laminae.

SHEETING. The slope or water-fall of a mill-dam. Halliwell has *sheet* in the sense of "to shoot down as water."

B.N.C.

SHEPHERD'S-DAISY. A variety of the common daisy, with a brown spot in the centre, and the petals edged or bordered with pink.

SHEPHERD'S-HEY.	}	All different names for a pas-
SHEPHERD'S RACE.		time which is enjoyed by the
SHEPHERD'S RING.		lower orders at the celebrated
SHEPHERD'S RUN.		fair held on Boughton Green,

an inclosed pasture of seventeen acres, distant little more than a mile from the village of that name, and four miles from Northampton. A green-sward circle of considerable size has been sunk about a foot below the surface of the green, as far back as memory can trace. A mazy path, rather more than a foot in width, is formed within by a trench, three or four inches wide, cut on each side of it; and the trial of skill consists in running the maze from the outside to the small circle in the centre in a given time, without crossing the boundaries of the path. Mazes or labyrinths appear to have been formed for recreation at an early period.

Pliny mentions the custom of boys making mazes for their play; and mazes were probably, in conjunction with NINE MEN'S MORRIS, among the varied amusements of shepherd-life in Shakspeare's time, as may be inferred from the following passage, quoted under MERELLS.

And the quaint mazes in the wanton green,
For lack of tread, are undistinguishable.

Mid. N. Dream, ii. 2.

SHEPHERD'S-MILL. See MERELLS.

SHEPHERD'S-LAMP. The first star that rises after sun-set. See illustration to BUTCHER'S CLEAVER.

SHEPHERD'S WEATHER GLASS. Scarlet pimpernel.

Anagallis arvensis. See JOHN THAT GOES TO BED AT NOON.

Moor and Halliwell call it the *Shepherd's Sun Dial*.

SHET or SHUT. To mend, to join; particularly any iron bar or instrument. "*Shut* a piece on to it."

SHETH. A division of a field, which is generally so separated as to drain off the water by the direction of the ploughings, called *sheths*. The Teesdale Glossarist says, "For the greater convenience of mowing, large fields are set out into *sheths*; in small fields this is not necessary, as they can be mown from side to side conveniently." This word is most likely from the A.-Sax. *scyftan*, to divide.

SHECKLES or SHICKLES. The frame at the back of a waggon into which the side-pieces are tenanted; answering to the FOR-BUCK.

SHICKLES. Thin crisp gingerbread, formerly made in the form of a lozenge, having the lateral corners rounded.

SHIFT. To provide for oneself. Palsgrave, "I *shyft* for myselfe." "Let me alone, I shall *shyft* for one of us I trowe."

H.H. H.A.D.

SHILL. Shrill in sound.

T.G. H.A.D.

SHILL or SHRILL. Clear, thin, as book-muslin; to which the term is particularly applied. "It's nice and *shrill*," when it is very even and clear.

SHILLY-SHALLYING. Wavering in purpose, hesitating, indecisive. "Don't stand *shilly-shallying* there." Probably a corrupt reduplication of *shall I? shall I?* Brockett and Halliwell have *shilly-shally*.

SHINDY. A spree, a row. "They kicked up such a *shindy*." A low phrase given in the Sussex Glossary; common also in America.

SHINE. "To cut, or make a *shine*," is to make a great display. Equivalent to making a SPLASH.

2. "To take the *shine* out of any one" is to lower the self-importance or conceit of any one.

3. "Every *shine* on 'em," *i. e.* every one of them.

J.S. H.A.D.

SHINER. A smart, clever fellow. "He's quite a *shiner*." Formerly a cant term for a guinea.

C.C. H.A.D.

SHIN-TIMBER. Small pieces of fire-wood.

SHIP. See SHEEP.

H.S.

SHIP-LAP. A carpenter's term for a mode of uniting the end of one piece of wood to the side of another, at right angles, by a bevil-shaped bearing on the upper edge.

SHIRK. To twist about in your clothes, as when the skin is irritable. "Don't stand *shirking* there."

2. To evade, to avoid. A master will often say to an idle boy, "You want to *shirk* your work, but you sha'n't."

A.W. P.D. H.A.D.

SHITTLE-COME-POO. See FIDDLE-STICK'S END.

SHIVER. A slice of any edible. A good old English word. Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, "*Schyvare* of brede or other lyke, *testa*." "*Shyver* of brede." Palsgrave.

Have I not of a capon but the liver,
And of your white bread nought but a *shiver*.

CHAUCER. Sompnour's Tale.

Easy it is of a cut loaf to steal a *shive*.

Titus Andron. ii. 1.

A *sheeve* of bread as brown as nut,

And cheese as white as snow.

PERCY. Reliques.

M.S. B.N.C. W.C.app. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SHOE. "As easy as an old *shoe*." A common proverbial simile.

C.C.

2. "That's where the *shoe pinches*." A phrase signifying, That is the point where the difficulty lies; that is the grievance.

SHOEING THE COLT. Another form of COLTING, which see.

H.A.D.

SHOES AND STOCKINGS. A variety of *Primula elatior*, having one flower sheathed within another.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

SHOFFLE. A dialectical variation of *shuffle*, one amongst the many instances of the mutability of the vowels; to idle, to loiter, applied almost exclusively to idle workmen. "He's a good-for-nothing chap, he's always *shoffling* about, instead of working."

SHOG or SHUG. To jog, to shake, to rock. "Don't *shog* the table so." "*Shog* the child off to sleep," *i. e.* Rock the cradle. To *shog off* signifies to depart. SHAKE, SHACK, SHUG, SHOG, all run into each other, and partake of the same meaning. *Shog* is a very good old English word, occurring in the Wiclifite version and the early dramatists. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, gives "*Shoggyng*, same as *roggyn*, *agito*." Pynson, "*Shoggyng*, *shakyn* or *waveryn*, *vacillo*." Palsgrave, "I *shogge* as a cart dothe." Jamieson, "To *shog*, to shake." Brockett has *shoggle*.

And the boot in the myddil of the see was *schogged* with wawis,
for the wynd was contrarie to hem. WICLIF. Matt. xiii.

Another's diving bow he did adore,
Which with a *shog* casts all the hair before,
Till he with full decorum, brings it back
And rises with a water spaniel shake.

DRYDEN'S Ep. to Etherege's Man of Mode.

G.&P. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SHOG-TROT. Kindred to JOG-TROT, which describes the
pace of a horse. *Shog-trot* refers more to the *motion* of
the rider, who sits erect and goes *shogging* and shaking
along, without rising in the stirrup or yielding to the
action of the horse.

E.L.

SHOMMAKING. Slovenly. Going *shommaking* along, is
walking in a loose, slovenly manner; untidily dressed:
slommaking is analogous.

SHOMMACKS. A slip-shod, untidy slattern. "What a
shommacks she is!" Halliwell applies the term to a
horse going ill on his legs. "He's a sad *shommocks*."

C.C.

SHOO! SHOO! A reduplicative interjection, used to
drive poultry, or scare away birds; as "chook! chook!"
calls them together. Florio, in his "Worlde of Wordes,"
has, "To cry *shoe, shoe*, as women do their hens." Cot-
grave gives "*Chou*, a voice wherewith we drive away
pulleine;" and the word occurs in Ray's Proverbs,
"He cannot say *shoo* to a goose."

Shough, shough! up to your coop, peahen!

BEAUMONT and FL. Maid in the Mill, v. i.

B.N.C. W.C. H.H. C.C. F.E.A. H.S. "Skeu." T.G.

H.P. "Shu." H.A.D.

SHOOK. Applied to timber that is full of cracks,
particularly after it is sawn into planks. Allied to LAG.

SHOOK. The preterite of shake. Worn in constitution;
more the effect of trouble than disease. "He seems
quite *shook*."

SHOOL. I have no other authority for this word than Clare, who defines it in the Glossary to one of his poems "*Shooled*, to carry for a pretence;" and in another, "*Shooled*, skulked." Forby explains it, "To saunter with extreme laziness."

While his pipe is puffing out,
Sue he's putting to the rout,
Gossiping, who takes delight
To *shool* her knitting out at night,
And back-bite neighbours 'bout the town.

CLARE'S Rural Life, (1820) p. 125.

The verse might tremble with the "haunted pond,"
And tell of terrors which his heart has found :
How he, to 'scape, *shool'd* many a pace beyond
Each dreaded, dangerous spot of haunted ground.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 23.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SHOON. An old plural of shoe.

Hire *shoon* were laced on hire legges hie.

CHAUCER. Miller's Tale.

Spare none but such as go in clouted *shoon*.

2 Hen. VI. iv. 2.

'But up then rose that lither ladd,

And hose and *shoone* did on.

PERCY'S Reliques.

As on with plashy step, and clouted *shoon*.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 26.

B.N.C. W.C.app. H.H. C.C. G.&P.

SHOOT. To suit. "I hope it 'ill *shoot* you." Hartshorne thus expresses this sense of the word, "*Shuit*."

2. "To *shoot* above or over your head," i. e. to write or speak beyond your comprehension.

3. To empty by tilting. "*Shoot* them down there," is often said when emptying a cart-load of bricks. Also applied to the emptying of sacks. "Where shall I *shoot* the potatoes?" is a common inquiry when laying in a winter store.

SHOP. "Gone to *shop*." Not to purchase goods, as is the commonly-received meaning of this phrase; but

used universally by all employed in shoemaking, when they take in, or fetch out from their employers. "I'm going to *shop* with my work." Always dropping the definite article.

SHORRY. A short pole, a shoulder-stick, on which hedgers carry faggots. Given by Halliwell as used in Oxfordshire.

SHORT. Deficient in foresight or judgment. "You were very *short* to let him take such advantage of you."

2. Hasty, pettish, easily provoked. "You're so *short*, there's no pleasing you."

You are very *short* with us.

Titus Andron. i. 2.

C.C. H.A.D.

3. "The *short and the long* of it," *i. e.* the whole, the absolute truth in few words. Frequently used by Shakspeare.

The *short and the long* is, our play is preferred.

Mid. N. Dream, iv. 2.

H.A.D.

4. Light and friable. Applied to pastry. Hence our common familiar simile for a snappish person, "She's as *short* as pie-crust."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SHORTNING. The dripping or lard which is put into common pie-crust, to make what is termed *short* paste, in contradistinction to flaky or puff paste.

M.S. F.E.A. H.A.D.

SHORTS. A finer kind of bran. See GRUDGEONS.

C.C. F.E.A. H.A.D.

SHOT. Turned out quickly; especially applied to emptying a cart by tilting. "Rubbish may be *shot* here," is a common notice on ground that is required to be raised.

H.A.D.

2. The score or reckoning at a public house.

I'll to the ale-house with you presently; where, for one *shot* of five pence, thou shalt have five thousand welcomes.

Two Gen. of Verona, ii. v.

B.N.C. H.H. T.G. H.A.D.

SHOULDER. "He gave it him over the left *shoulder*," *i. e.* reproved him indirectly.

2. "Set your *shoulder* to the wheel," *i. e.* set to in earnest, use your best exertions to accomplish your object.

SHOVING. A calf or colt is said to be *shoving*, when parting with its early teeth, *i. e.* *shoving* them out. A.-Sax. *shove*, pushes.

H.A.D. "Shoven." M.S. "Shooven." F.E.A. "Shove."

SHOWELLING. Synonymous with SHAUMING, which see.

E.L.

SHOWL. A shovel or spade.

J.S.add. A.W. L.H.

2. To shovel. "*Showl* the snow off the pavement."

M.S. J.S.add.

SHRED. To cut or chop fine. "*Shred* the suet very fine." "To morsell, to mince, or *shred* in pieces." Florio's "Worlde of Wordes." A.-Sax. *screadan*.

W.C. H.S.

2. To plan, to contrive. An industrious, managing wife often says of her servants, that they will not get on with their work unless she *shreds* it out for them.

SHRILL. See SHILL.

SHRINE. To dry, as beans in a harvest field. When they are fit to carry, they are said to be well *shrined*. I am not aware that it is applied to other than siliquose grain.

SHRUDDY. Grave, somewhat stern. "How *shruddy* he looks." "He was very *shrud*."

SHUCK. The preterite of shake. "The ground *shuck* so wi' me, I thought I must a' sunk in."

M.S. H.A.D.

SHUFF. A sudden gust of wind.

SHUFFY. Changeable, blowing strong at intervals.
 "The wind is very *shuffy*." A provincial variation of
 shift.

SHUGGY-SHEW. A swing. Common in the North;
 not so with us.

G. B.N.C. H.A.D.

SHUT. Free from, rid of. "Good *shut* of bad rubbidge,"
 is a common vulgar saying. Wilbraham suggests that
 it means "the door is shut upon him." See Diversions
 of Purley, in voce *shoot*. We have extended applica-
 tions of this word, coalescing with the original import.
 "I wish I could get *shut* of this cough. "It was a
 very dull market to day, I could not get *shut* of my goods."

H.H. C.C. H.S. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SHUTTING-IN. Evening.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

SHY. To throw a light substance with a jerk; to *shy*
 with anything at anything. One boy will often say to
 another, "I can *shy* a stone as well as you."

P.D. C.S. H.A.D.

2. Wild, startlish.

R.E.S.C. M.S. P.D.

3. To avoid, to take fright; as a horse that starts aside
 from objects at which it is alarmed. Also used person-
 ally. "I am sure she saw me, but she tried to *shy* me."
 All these different significations of this word are given
 amongst Bartlett's Americanisms.

C.C. F.E.A. H.P. "Shie." H.A.D.

SIBLET. See SEBLET.

SIC.

SICH.

SITCH.

} Such. All archaisms. "I ai'n't seen him
sic a while."

Whoever resseyveth oon of *sicke* children in my name resseyveth me.

WICLIF. Mark ix.

M.S. W.C.app. H.H. F.E.A. L.H. T.G. H.A.D.

SICK AS A HORSE. A common vulgar simile, used when a person is exceedingly sick without vomiting. This simile is generally considered a very anomalous one, but, as it is well known that a horse is never actually sick, it is strictly correct if applied to nausea which produces no visible effect.

SID. Seed. A.-Sax. *sæd*.

SIDDER. A term applied to malting barley. A shower of rain on barley, after it is cut, is said to be beneficial and to make it *sidder*, i. e. promote its growth in the cistern and make it work better.

E.L.

SIDE-PIECES. The longitudinal pieces of timber lying under the rafters between the ridge and wall-plates.

SIDE-WIPE. An indirect rebuke.

C.C. H.A.D.

SIDLE. To saunter along, inclining to one side or the other. "How he goes *sidling* along."

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SIGHT. A great number of either persons or things. "What a *sight* of folks there was at the fair!" "There was a fine *sight* of plums on the tree."

M.S. F.E.A. L.H. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SIGNIFICATION. Importance. "It's of no *signification*."

L.H. H.A.D.

SIKE. A deep-drawn sigh. A.-Sax. *sican*.

The kyng in herte *syked* sore.

Rom. of Rich. Cœur de Lion. (Toone.)

When that Arcite hadde ysonge, he gan to *sike*.

CHAUCER'S Knight's Tale.

And now I thinke, and now I tale,

And now I synge, and now I *sike*.

GOWER, fo. 70.

R.N.C. G. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SILE. To faint, to sink, or subside gradually. Skinner gives it as a Lincolnshire word, as do Bishop Kennett

in his MS. Glossary and Ray in his North Country Words. Most frequently applied personally.

"They dig the grave deeper!—your Nelly's beguil'd!"
She said and she *siled* on the floor.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1820), p. 152.

By the spring-head, whose water, winter-chill,
Boils up the white sand that is never still;
Now swimming up in silver threads, and then
Slow *siling* down to bubble up again.

Ibid. Shep. Cal. (1827) p. 180.

As sober evening sweetly *siles* along.

Ibid. Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 14.

G.&P. H.P.

2. To strain, as to purify milk through a straining bowl.
"I *sye* milk or clense—this term is to moche northern."
Palsgrave.

B.N.C. H.H. C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SILKEN SKIN. In good humour. "He has a fine
silken skin to day."

SILLS. The shafts of a waggon: the same as THILLS.

G. B.N.C.

SILVER-GRASS. Striped grass; common in gardens.

Gramen paniculatum *variegata*. *Calamagrestis*
variegata.

SILVER PENNIES. See MARCH DAISIES.

SILVER SPOON. "To be born with a *silver spoon* in
your mouth." A phrase used to express that a person
is born rich, or under lucky circumstances. "Those
that are born with *silver spoons* in their mouths, don't
know how to use them," is a common adage applied to
those who do not make the best use of their advantages.

C.C. H.A.D.

SILT. Deposition of mud upon land after a flood.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SIM. See. "Come and *sim* ma."

SIMPLES. "He wants cutting for the *simples*." A

phrase implying that the person referred to is such a simpleton that he might be *cut* or plucked by an herbalist who gathers *simples* in the fields.

C.C. H.A.D.

SIMPLE SIMON. An idiot.

H.A.D.

SIN. Since. Hunter proves, from a deed 49 Hen. VI., that this is genuine old English.

Now help us Lord, *sin* it lieth in thy might.

CHAUCER.

Knowing his voice, although not heard long *sin*,
She sudden was revived there withall.

SPENCER. F. Q.

Ever *sin* yesterday noon.

BEN JONSON, Every Man out of his Humour.

M.S. W.C. C.C. H.H. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SINGLE. The tail of a deer. Used on the north-eastern side of the county. Phillips recognises the word.

SINGING. Hissing; the sound emitted from water when confined in a tea-kettle, just before ebullition. "The water won't be long before it boils, it begins to *sing*." The sound made by damp wood when burning is also called *singing*.

Musing beside the crackling fire at night,
While *singing* kettle merrily prepares
Women's solacing beverage, I delight
To read a pleasant volume, where the cares
Of life are sweetened by the muse's voice.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 120.

SINGING-BONE. The sharp bone at the edge of the elbow. Anatomists call it the *Olecranon* of the *Ulna*, which, on being accidentally struck, causes a peculiar sensation, which has suggested the above name; or, as it is sometimes called, the funny-bone.

SING SMALL. To be silent, to refrain from defending yourself, when conscious you are in the wrong. "You'd

better *sing small*, and say nothing." Shakspeare has *speak small* in the Merry Wives of Windsor.

H.A.D.

SING-SONG. A wearisome repetition of any tale or grievance. "Don't make such a *sing-song* about it."

H.A.D.

SINKING. Faint. "I feel so *sinking*."

SISERARA. *See* SESARARA.

H.A.D.

SIRN. Sorrowing. Retained in the old proverb,—“If you go a birn, you go a *sirn* :” *i. e.* If you go a borrowing, you go a sorrowing.

SIT. A singular term applied to the moon when it is past the full. “The moon *sits*, it will be dark to-night.”

E.L.

SITCH. A small water-course. Not common. A.-Sax. *sich*.

SITHE. A sigh. Forby, Evans, Holloway, and Halliwell give the verb; Moor, the noun.

2. To strain and purify milk. An old word occurring in the Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440. “*Cyyd* or *cythyd* and *clensyd* as *mylke* or other *lyke*, *colatus*.” “*Sythen* or *clensyn* *lycurs*, *colo*.” Jamieson has “*Sithe*, to strain any liquid.”

SITHING-BOWL. A wooden bowl without a bottom, and with a piece of strainer tied over the aperture for the purpose of straining or purifying milk.

SIX. “*Six* of one and half-a-dozen of the other.” A common phrase, expressive of equality; one is as good as the other.

SIXES AND SEVENS. In a state of confusion and disorder. “He’s gone away in such a hurry, he has left everything at *sixes and sevens*.” It is in vain to conjecture why these numbers should have been selected in preference to any other odd and even numbers; but

it appears to be an expression that has been long in use, and has found a place amongst Bartlett's Americanisms. See Todd's Johnson and Nares's Glossary.

All is uneven,
And every thing is left at *six and seven*.

Rich. II. ii. 2.

M.S. B.N.C. H.A.D.

SIX-O'CLOCKS. The star of Bethlehem. So called from closing its petals about that hour. Called in some counties French snowdrop.

SIZES. A common, well-authorised contraction for Assizes.

Where life still lives, where God his *size* holds.

SYLVESTER'S Du Bartas.

Item for both juges cost in the town during Apulby *sizes*,
iij l. ij s. ix d.

H. Lord Clifford, H. B. 1510. (Craven Dialect.)

Admires nothing

But a long charge at *sizes*.

BEAUM. & FL. Wit-w-Mon, iv. 3.

C.C. P.D. H.A.D.

SIZZLE. To dry and shrivel up by fire. A word formed from the sound produced by the action of heat on greasy substances.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SKAVE or SKIVE. To pare or shave leather so thin as only to remove the bare grain; to take the mere surface off anything. Thus we say, "*skiving* like a lap-wing," in allusion to the manner in which that bird skims over the surface of a sheet of water. Forby gives it, "To pare off the thicker parts of hides previous to tanning;" but we restrict it to the shaving of the leather.

SKEEL. A cylindrical wooden vessel with an upright handle, for carrying milk or water: similar to a PIGGEN,

only larger in dimensions. A *skeel* is a washing-tub in Scotland, according to Jamieson.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D. T.G.

SKELPER. A tall, lanky youth. "What a *skelper* he's grown!"

G. H.A.D.

SKENCHBACK. Remarkable in appearance, easily distinguishable. "You must know such a person, if you have ever seen him, he's *skenchback* enough." In Staffordshire, I am informed, *skench* is a common term for a strain in the back; and, as spinal deformity often arises from such an accident, it is probable that our compound has so originated.

H.H.app. "Skanskback."

SKERRICK. See SCUTTUCK.

SKEW. To shy, to start aside, as a horse; to shun, to look askance; to twist one's self affectedly. "How she *skews* herself about." To go diagonally. "They were obliged to *skew* the brook:" *i. e.* cross it aslant. An abbreviation of *askew*.

B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SKEWING. Looking askance; going in an oblique direction.

Jane's *skewing* cow was struck with fear,
And kick'd the milk-pail to the ground.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 8.

The cows stood round her in a wondering way,
And kept the stranger with her fears at bay;
They tost their heads, and snuff'd the morning gales,
Skewing at her.

Ibid. Shep. Cal. p. 173.

C.C.

SKEW-BALD. Pied, or party-coloured; applied to a horse.

M.S.app. W.C. F.E.A. H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SKEW-WAMP. Awry, crooked, warped.

SKEW-WHIFF. Awry, aslant. "It's all *skew-whiff*."

Probably blown on one side by a whiff or puff.

H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SKID. To check the progress of a carriage in descending a hill—commonly called locking the wheel—by a *skid*-pan; or by a hook attached to a spoke of one of the hind wheels. Bp. Kennett, in his MS. Glossary, inserts *skid* as a Kentish term.

G.&P. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SKID-PAN or SLIPPER. A groove attached to a chain, which passes under a wheel in going down hill, to prevent its rotatory motion.

E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SKILLET. A small brass kettle without a lid. Shakspeare says, in *Othello*, "Let housewives make a *skillet* of my helm."

G.&P. M.S. F.E.A. H.A.D.

SKIMPING. Small, limited in quantity or size; parsimonious in the distribution of food. "What a *skimping* little bit you've given me!" "What a *skimping* little bonnet she had on!" The word is authorised by Garrick in his "May Day," "a little *skimp* bit of a hat." Evans has *skimpy*: and *jimp* has obtained the same meaning in Scotland.

H.A.D.

SKINCH. To give scant measure; to give short commons; to nip and pinch so as to effect a saving.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SKINCHING. Parsimonious, miserly.

H.A.D.

SKIN-FLINT. A covetous, niggardly fellow; well characterised in the following old saw. "*Skin a flint* for a farthing, and spoil a knife worth a groat."

B.N.C. H.S. H.A.D.

SKIN-WOOL. *See* PELT-WOOL.

SKINNY. Mean, shabby, penurious. "He's a *skinny* fellow."

H.P. H.A.D.

SKIP. More frequently "skep" in other dialects. A wicker basket, wider at top than bottom, almost uniformly a bushel measure, used for agricultural purposes. A.-Sax. *scep*, *cumera*. In Tusser we have—

A pitch-fork, a dung-fork, sieve, *skep*, and a bin.

Sir Henry Dryden informs me that in his neighbourhood this name is given to a small wooden vessel, made in the manner of a half-barrel, with one stave longer than the rest for a handle; we term it LADE-SKIP or *brewing-skip*, but more commonly LADE-PAIL. The same vessel, with a long handle, is a *hog-skip*, and used for lading the hogs'-wash out of the LOOM.

R.S.E.C. G.&P. M.S.&F.E.A. "Skep." E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SKIP-JACK. The merrythought of a fowl.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

SKUTY. Synonymous with FOOTY.

M.S.app.

SKIRMIDGE. A skirmish. *See* SCRIMMAGE.

F.E.A. H.S. "Skrimage."

SKIT. A satirical reflection, a concealed imputation. Brockett and Forby give it verbally.

C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SKIVE. *See* SKAVE.

SKOGGER. Synonymous with BOFFLER. When I wrote that article I was not aware that *skogger* was ever so used with us; but I am informed that it is, on the western side of the county.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SKRAUMING. Spreading widely; stretching out the arms ungainly. Chaucer probably meant the same when he

said, in the Merchant's Tale, "With hondis al *for-skramyd*." Nearly allied to sprawling. The verb is given by the Craven Glossarist.

SKREEK. To skreech, to make a noise like a door that grates on the hinges. "It *skreeks* so, it sets my teeth on edge."

M.S. H.A.D.

SKREEN. A wooden settee with a very high back, sufficient to *screen* those who sit upon it from observation, and from the external air: still a frequent appendage in the kitchen of a small public house, or a village inn; occasionally seen in an old-fashioned farm-house, and occurs in recent advertisements in our local newspapers. This ancient piece of furniture is noticed by Tusser.

W.C.

SKRINGE. To crowd, to squeeze violently. To shrink from cold or pain.

M.S. B.N.C.

SKROWJ. To squeeze, to press upon. "Don't *skrowj* so." Nearly akin to the preceding word.

M.S.

SLAB. The piece that is sawn from a tree in squaring it. A word in general use in Ray's time, and it still continues so.

R.N.C. G. C.C. W.C.app F.E.A. L.H. H.A.D.

2. A large piece of anything edible. "Give me a good *slab* of meat" is often said by a hungry boy.

SLABBY or SLOBBY. Muddy, sloppy.

M.S. B.N.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SLACEN-BUSH. }
SLAUN-BUSH. } The black thorn.

E.L.

SLACK. Small refuse coal. "Put some *slack* behind the fire." The refuse of a blacksmith's shop is so called.

W.C. H.S. H.A.D.

2. Slow; underdone; anything dressed before a *slack* fire, or in a slow oven, as "*slack-done* meat:" "*slack-baked* bread." When trade is depressed, it is commonly said, "Trade is *slack*." And when tradesmen find a difficulty in getting in their payments, they will say, "Money comes in very *slack*." These varied applications of this word are all traceable to the A.-Sax. *slæc*, slow.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SLACK-TROUGH. The trough which is used for quenching the iron in a blacksmith's shop.

SLACK-JAW. Coarse language. This vulgar term is common also in Scotland, according to Jamieson.

SLADE. A breadth of greensward in ploughed land, or in plantations; a flat piece of grass, and sometimes a green road; a border of grass round, or a strip of grass at the sides of ploughed fields. Most of these significations have fallen into disuse since the inclosure of open fields. It is now most commonly applied to a broad strip of greensward between two woods, generally in a valley, a sort of natural drainage.

And now he clymeth up the bankes,
And falleth in the *slades* depe.

GOWER, fo. 78.

A.-Sax. *slæd*. Drayton uses the word repeatedly in his *Poly-olbion*. Nares remarks that he has not met with it in other authors; but Halliwell cites several earlier authorities.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SLADDERY or SLODDERY. Wet and dirty. "It's *sladdery* walking."

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SLAISTERING. Slovenly; doing anything in an awkward, untidy manner. Not frequent.

SLAKE. To smear, to wet, to bedaub.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SLAM. A peculiar mode of ringing the bells. See CLAM.

2 To shut or close with violence. "How you *slam* the door!"

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. P.D.

SLANG. A long narrow slip of land running up between other divisions: whether separated by a hedge or not. Often used participially, as, "It runs *slanging* along."

H.S. L.H. E.L. H.A.D.

SLANTS. Sly jokes; indirect attacks. "He *slants* at me." Obviously a figurative use of the adj. *slant*, oblique, not direct. Nares gives *Slent* and *to slent*, with a similar meaning, and observes he had not found them in any Glossary, as provincial or otherwise; he illustrates them with the following quotations from NORTH'S Plut. Lives. (1597.)—

And when Cleopatra found Antonius' jeasts and *slents* to be but grosse.

One Proteus, a pleasannt, conceited man, and that could *slent* finely.

B.N.C.

SLAP. Direct; to the point at once without manœuvring.

"He went *slap* at it:" *i. e.* He went over the gate at once, without hesitating. "He went *slap* into the pool."

SLAP-BANG. Violently, with great force. When a loud noise is made, it is common to exclaim, "*Slap-bang's* come to town."

B.N.C. 2nd ed. H.A.D.

SLAP-DASH. Precipitately, off-hand.

F.D.

SLAPHUS or SLOPHOUSE. A scullery.

SLAPPER. Anything large: applied to persons and things, but most frequently to over-grown females. "She's a *slapper*." "What a *slapping* child!" "It takes a *slapping* piece of leather to cover a folio."

G. B.N.C. 2nd ed. C.C.

2. A palpable enlargement of the truth; a falsehood.

SLAPPING. Walking with hasty strides. "How he goes *slapping* along!"

2. "Going a *slapping*." Going to gather cowslips. *See* COWSLAP.

SLAT. Slate, either that used at school, or roofing slate. Unaltered Saxon. Occurs in Wiclif's New Testament, Luke v.

M.S. A.W. H.A.D.

2. The flat step of a ladder.

3. To drip, or run down. "Why the water's *slatting* off your hat on to your coat."

E.L.

SLATE-RIBS. Short ribs; that joint of beef which lies between the top ribs and the brisket. Synonymous with PLATE-RAND.

E.L.

SLATS. The sleepers or rails to support the bed of a cart. Bailey has "*Sloates of a cart*, those under-pieces which keep the bottom of the cart together."

SLAVERING. Foaming, frothing at the mouth from fast talking.

And slavered at the mouth for vast delight.

DRYDEN.

B.N.C.

SLAVERING-BIB or SLOBBERING-BIB. A cloth suspended under a child's chin, to absorb the saliva when teething. Palsgrave has "*Slauverynge* clothe for children."

SLECK. To splash, to smirch. "The table was *slecked* all over," i. e. splashed or smirched with dirt.

SLEEP. A churn is said to *sleep* when no sound is produced by the agitation of the cream. A top *sleeps* when it moves with such velocity, and spins so smoothly, that its motion is imperceptible. A limb is said to be *asleep* when benumbed for want of proper circulation.

SLEEPERS. The beams under a barn or other floors.

G.&P. M.S. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

2. Such grains of barley as do not vegetate whilst undergoing the process of malting.

H.S.

SLEEVELESS. Listless, heedless, inanimate. "A poor *sleeveless* thing." Moor says he never heard it in any other sense than "unsuccessful." Our meaning differs from that of every other Glossarist, and certainly does not explain Shakspeare's "*sleeveless* errand." It accords, however, as well as Todd's definition. Our usage is sanctioned by Skinner.

M.S. B.N.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SLENT. To slant, to slope.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SLIBBER or SLIDDER. To slip, to slide.

SLIDE. A smooth piece of ice, fit for sliding, or which has been *slidden* upon. "That's a good piece of ice, it will make a capital *slide*."

SLIDDER. A long piece of greensward between two furlongs. The same as FEATHER.

SLIDDERING. Sliding, slipping. A.-Sax. *sliderian*.

Go thou from me to fate,
Now die; with that he dragg'd the trembling sire,
Sliddering through clotted blood.

DRYDEN.

B.N.C. G.&P.

SLILY. Slowly.

SLIM. Slight, slender, lathy; as applied to persons. Metaphorically used to work that is carelessly and unsubstantially done. A shoemaker, who brought his apprentice up before the magistrates, complained that "he *slimmed* his work so, he could put up with it no longer." See also SLITHER.

G. M.S. C.S. H.A.D.

SLING. To throw, to cast. "Let's have a *sling* at it."

H.A.D.

SLINGE. To cringe.

SLINK. A sneak, a disreputable person.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SLIP-CHEESE. Soft cheese, plate-cheese: that which is made without crushing out the whey.

SLIP ON. To put clothes on carelessly or hastily. A.-Sax. *slepan on*, induere. "I must just *slip on* my bonnet and -shawl before I can go out." A common colloquial expression.

C.C. H.A.D.

SLIP-STRING WAYS. Careless, slovenly ways; applied almost exclusively to servants who slight their work.

SLIPE. A slip, or slice; a long narrow piece. Unaltered Saxon.

SLIPPER. A SKID-PAN.

SLIPPER-SLOPPER. An epithet for a person who goes about slip-shod.

J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SLIPPERY. Uncertain, not trustworthy. "He's a *slippery* chap," in whom is no confidence or security. Common in America.

The Courtiers are such *slippery* youths, they are ever for the fairest chapman.

DRYDEN'S Wild Gallant, iv. 1.

SLIPPINGS. Milk in a state of coagulation, prior to the separation of the whey from the curd: or, in the language

of the dairy-maid, just before it is "COME." A name indicating slippery smoothness.

SLIPPY. Slippery. Brockett remarks, "Not an abbreviation, as Mr. Wilbraham supposes, but a pure Saxon word; and, as shown by Mr. Todd, of old English usage; notwithstanding which, the great lexicographer characterized it as a *barbarous provincial* term from *slip*."

W.C. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

2. Quick, active. "Come, be *slippy*."

H.A.D.

SLIPPYISH. Rather slippery. When applied to persons, it signifies not to be depended upon.

C.C.

SLITHER. The quantity of Jersey a woolcomber draws off in emptying his comb, is called "a *slither* of Jersey." The Craven Glossary has *sliver*, "a lock of combed wool."

2. To slide on the ice, to slip. "He *slithers* away well." "He *slithered* down the bank." We also have a figurative use of this word, which seems to be peculiar to us. When any work is carelessly or negligently done, it is commonly said, "How you *slither* over your work, you don't half do it." "A man who *slithers* his work is sure to make it SLIM," *i. e.* a person who slips over his work is sure to do it slightly and unsubstantially. Promp. Parv. "*slydyr*, labilis."

C.C. H.S. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SLITHERING. Slow, indolent, lounging about.

E.L. H.A.D.

SLITHERY. Unstable, unsteady.

SLIVE. To cut, to slip, or slice off any thing. A.-Sax. *slifan*. The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, gives, "*Sliving*, cutting away, avulsio." And Palsgrave "I *slyve* a gylowfloure or any other floure from his branche or stalke."

When frost will not suffer to dyke and to hedge,
 Then get the a heate with thy beetle and wedge.
 Once hallowmas come and a fyer in hall,
 Such *slivers* do wel, to lye by the wall.

TUSSER. (1572) fol. 22.

They'll *sliver* thee loike a turnip, mon.

Waverley, vol. ii. p. 291. (1829.)

H.S. H.A.D.

2. To sneak, to skulk, to creep about, or do anything slyly.

As silence *sliveth* upon sleep.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 13.

They *slive*, when no one sees, some wall behind.

Ibid. p. 34.

I oft looked out to see the moon,
 And the stackyard gate would clap;
 I'd run and *slive* my bonnet on,
 And court the merry chap.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

R.N.C. G. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SLIVE or SLIVER. A large slice. "He cut such a *sliver* off the loaf." Old English; occurring in Chaucer. Bartlet inserts it amongst his Americanisms.

C.C. F.E.A M.S. B.N.C. P.D. H.A.D.

SLIVING. Slipping imperceptibly, sliding slyly. Clare sanctions our local usage in the following quotations:—

What bustle to his cottage has he made,
 Ere *sliving* night around his journey threw
 Her circling curtain of a grisly hue.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 22.

Where her long-hoarded groat oft brings the maid,
 And secret *slives* it in the sybil's fist,
 To buy good luck and happiness

Ibid. p. 54.

SLOBBER. To slop; to eat spoon-food in a slovenly, filthy manner. "You're *slobbering* your milk all over your pinafore," is often said to a dirty, untidy child. Nares says *slobber* is a corruption of *slaver*.

M.S. H.A.D.

2. To do work in a slovenly, untidy manner, is to *slobber* it over.

SLOBBERING-BIB. *See* SLAVERING-BIB.

SLOBBERY. Wet, dirty, sloppy. "The streets are very *slobbery* to day."

But I will sell my dukedom
To buy a *slobbery* and dirty farm,
In that nook-shotten Isle of Albion.

Hen. V. iii. 5.

M.S. H.A.D.

SLOGGERING. Loose, slovenly. "His stockings are *sloggering* about his ancles." Not common. A Northern term according to Jamieson. SLOTCHIKIN is correspondent, and in more frequent use.

B.N.C. T.G.

SLOGGET. A sloven; generally applied to females.

SLOMMAKIN. Slatternly, trolloping. For an exemplification of this word, see the illustration to ROMMAKING.

M.S. "Slammaken." H.S. P.D. "Slummaking." H.P.

H.A.D.

SLOMMACKS. A drab, a trolloping, slovenly girl or woman. Common in New England, as well as in Old England.

L.H. "Slammakin." H.P. H.A.D. "Slomax."

SLON. Sloe. A wild damson. *Prunus spinosa*. (With.) A.-Sax. *sla*, *slag*, *slan*. In Westmoreland called *sleas*, in Oxfordshire *slags*, in Kent, Shropshire, Wiltshire, *slans*, in Suffolk *sloons*.

SLOOMY. Slow, dreamy, dronish. "He goes *sloomying* along." The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, has "*slumerare*, dormitator." Jamieson gives "To *sloom*, to slumber, to become powerless." Hence our figurative application of the word.

O'er pathless plains, at early hours,
The sleepy rustic *sloomy* goes.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 127.

H.A.D.

SLOP. A short smock-frock, such as is worn by navigators. A.-Sax. *slop*, stola. "*Slop* garment, mutatorium," occurs in the Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, proving also the antiquity of the name. Chaucer probably refers to a similar garment when he says, in "The Chanones Yeomannes Tale," "His overest *sloppe*, it is not worth a mite." See a long article on this term in Moor.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

2. To spill, to wet or dirty. "If you don't mind, you'll *slop* half your beer out of the mug, and *slop* your frock all over."

H.H. H.S. H.A.D.

SLOP-FROCK. } A coarse, loose, white holland
SMOCK-FROCK. } frock, generally reaching to the
mid-leg; often stitched, or chain-stitched, in an ornamental pattern on the shoulders, wrists, &c. with dark blue silk. The common outer garment of an agricultural labourer; the ancient gaberdine. *Smock-frock* is the most general term. *Slop-frock* is only occasionally heard, but it is so designated by Clare in his graphic description of young Hodge in the Rural Morning.

A senseless lump of animated clay,
With weather-beaten hat of rusty brown,
Stranger to brinks, and often to a crown;
With *slop-frock* suiting to the ploughman's taste,
Its greasy skirtings twisted round his waist;
And hardened HIGH-LOWS clench'd with nails around,
Clamping defiance o'er the stony ground.

Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 68.

F.E.A. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

SLORP. To make a noise while supping with a spoon, to

swallow hastily and ungracefully. Old English. Hulot recognises the word, and defines it, "to make fowle, sordido, elco." Jamieson inserts it as a verb active and neuter, a substantive, and an adjective. Forby gives *slurrup*, and the Teesdale Glossarist *slope*, with the like significance.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SLOSH. Snow in a state of liquifaction.

M.S.&B.N.C. "Slush." C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SLOSH or SLUSH. To splash about liquid mud. "It *sloshes* so," is often said after a thaw.

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SLOTCHING or SLOTCHIKIN. Slovenly, untidy. "To *slotch* about," or "go *slotching* about," is to go about slip-shod with the stockings and other clothing hanging loosely about. "His stockings hang *slotchikin* about his heels." I have never met with this word elsewhere, but Jamieson has "*Slocher*, a person careless in dress, particularly about the feet." And Halliwell has "*Slotch*, a sloven." See SLOGGERING.

SLOVE. The preterite of SLIVE, which see.

Now Doll brings in th' expected pails,
And dogs begin to wag their tails;
With strokes and pats they're welcom'd in,
And they with looking wants begin;
Slove in the milk-pail brimming o'er,
She pops their dish behind the door.

CLARE'S Rural Life, (1821) p. 123.

And darker and darker it grew by degrees,
And crows they flock'd quawking to rest;
When unknown to her parents, Nell *slove* on her hat,
And o'er the fields hurried—scarce knew she for what.

Ibid. p. 145.

SLUBBER. To smear, or obscure with dirt, to do a thing in a careless, slovenly manner. To half clean a thing is to *slubber* it over. "I *slubber*, I fyle a thyng

or beray it." Palsgrave. There are numerous early authorities for this now vulgar word. Shakspeare adopts it in both senses.

In the superscription it (the breve of Pope Julius) appeared *slubbered* by reason of often handling, peradventure lying among so many his writings and old letters.

State Trials, Hen. VIII. an. 19.

You must be content, therefore, to *slubber* the gloss of your new fortunes with this more stubborn and boisterous expedition.

Othello, i. 3.

Do not so;

Slubber not business for my sake, Bassanio.

Merchant of Venice, ii. 8.

. Shew it abroad 'tis stale,

And still, the more eyes cheapen it, 'tis more *slubbered*.

BEAU. and FL. The Spanish Curate, ii. 2.

H.A.D.

SLUBBERING. Slovenly, dirty: such a servant is called "a *slubbering* thing."

SLUDGE. Liquid, splashy mud. "The roads are all of a *sludge* after the rain." Nearly allied to SLOSH and SLUSH.

G. H.H. L.H. E.L. T.G. H.A.D.

SLUN. Another name for the sloe. See SLON. To go out to gather them is to go a *slunning*.

SLUR or SLURRY. To daub, to dirty, to slip over, to dispatch work with idle haste. To *slur* anything over, is to do it slightly. "How you do *slurry* your work over."

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SLUR. A slide.

E.L.

2. To slip, to slide.

H.P. B.N.C. C.C. G.&P.

SLUSH. See SLOSH.

2. To wash with much water without rubbing. "*Slush* it in the river."

SLUSHY. Miry; consisting of soft mud, or half-dissolved snow. "The roads are very *slushy*." *Slush* and *slushy* are common in America, according to Bartlett.

F.E.A.

SLUTCH. Mud; correlative with SLUDGE and SLUSH, before given. I have not met with this word except in Tim Bobbin.

SLUTHER. Another word of the same class as the preceding, signifying liquid mud. Quite peculiar, I believe, to this county.

2. To slide. "*Sluther* down the hill."

SLY-BOOTS. Always used plurally. The Craven Glossarist says, "a cunning person." Halliwell, "a sly fellow." We confine it to a sly, artful, cunning child.

SLY-WIPE. An indirect reproof or sarcasm. *By-wipe* occurs in the same sense in the Craven Glossary.

SMACK. Suddenly to come or go against anything with great force; to commence anything with eagerness. "He fell *smack* agen it." "He went *smack* at it."

P.D. H.A.D.

SMACK-SMOOTH. Level, very smooth.

C.C. H.A.D.

SMALL BEER. A phrase negatively applied to persons who assume undue importance, or over-estimate themselves. "He does not think *small beer* of himself."

SMALL FRY. A family of young children. This term has travelled across the Atlantic.

SMART or SMARTISH. Considerable. "A *smart* price;" "a *smart* shower;" or "a *smart* quantity" of anything.

H.A.D.

2. Spruce, well, or finely dressed. "He's dressed very *smart*." This sense and the preceding are both very

common; not dialectical, though overlooked in the dictionaries.

H.A.D.

SMASH. A stoppage in business; a bankruptcy: when any one is trading beyond his capital, it is often said, "There'll be a *smash* there soon."

H.A.D.

2. A breakage. "She's had a grand *smash*—dropped the tea-tray, and *smashed* everything on it."

M.S. J.S.

3. To break in pieces, to shiver to atoms. "It was broken all to *smash*." "The window was *smashed* to atoms."

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SMASHER. Anything larger than another of the same kind.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SMEUSE. The same as MEWSE, which see.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

SMITHER. To wear away, as iron rubbing against iron. Halliwell gives "*Smithers*, fragments, atoms," as used in Lincolnshire.

SMOCK-MILL. A corn-mill, generally built of brick, sometimes of stone; of a circular form, tapering upwards: a few feet of the upper part and the covering are of wood. The sails and sail-shaft, with the wooden roof of the mill, are so arranged as by means of a winch to revolve, and thus the position of the sails is varied so as to meet the wind. Many of the modern-built *smock-mills* have a *fan-tail*, which adjusts the sails without the use of the winch.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SMOKE. Formerly, and occasionally now applied to any steam or vapour.

H.A.D.

2. A transaction that has an abrupt, unpropitious termination is said to "end in *smoke*."
3. "To cut *smoke* with a leather hatchet:" *i. e.* to attempt impossibilities.
4. "To play *smoke* with:" *i. e.* to injure. A person making an unsuccessful bargain would say, "That purchase played *smoke* with me." If a lent horse has been over-ridden, it is commonly remarked, "He played *smoke* with that horse, he has been good for nothing since."

SMOOTHER. A smoothing iron. *Smoothers* occur in a notice of sale in the Northampton Mercury, 1832.

SMORE. To burn without flame. "The fire *smores*." Analogous to SMOULDER. A.-Sax. *smoran*. All the other Glossarists who insert this word give it simply "to smother."

G.&P. B.N.C. & C.C. "Smoor." H.H.app. "Smoar."
H.P. H.A.D.

2. To swarm; to abound; figuratively connected with the preceding sense. When a swarm of bees is very numerous, we say, "How they come *smoring* out of the hive!"

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SMOTCH. A blot or stain. A variation of *smutch*. Jamieson gives *Smot*, a stain.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SMOUCH. An audible salute: an old word.

G.&P. "Smoutch." B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To salute coarsely.

What bussing, what *smouching* and slobbering one of another.

STUBBES, *Anat. of Abuses* (1595), p. 114. (Todd.)

C.C. F.E.A. H.P.

SMOTHER-FLY. Marshall, in his "Rural Economy," calls it the bean aphid.

SMOULDER. To burn without smoke or flame; wood that does so burn *smoulders* away. Todd gives the participle, and remarks, "I know not whether the verb *smoulder* be in use." It is not uncommon with us. Palsgrave,—"*I smolder* as wete wood doth y^t smoketh and burneth nat clere. This woode burneth nat clere, it dothe but *smolder*."

SMUCK. Smart, spruce, neat. "*Smuck* yourself up before you go out:" *i. e.* change your dress; make yourself smart.

SMUDGE. Not smothered smoke, as given by Grose and others, but the dirt or smut arising from smoke; clothes in washing are *smudged* with the SMUTS or *blacks*, as they are called, falling from the copper chimney: clean linen from the laundress, that looks dingy, is said to look *smudgy*.

E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SMUG. A word of similar import to SMUCK. "She looks very *smug*." Minshew recognises both *smug* and *smucken*. *Smug* is inserted in most of our dictionaries, and there are examples of its use in many of our early dramatists: with us it is nearly obsolete.

A beggar, that used to come so *smug* upon the mart.

Merch. of Venice, iii. 1.

Fie! Sir: so angry upon your wedding day!

Go, *smug* yourself; the maid will come anon.

BEAUM. & FL. Women Pleased.

—— Fox-furr'd Mecho

Hath raked together some four thousand pound,

To make his *smug* girl bear a bumming sound

In a young merchant's ear.

MARSTON, Scourge of Villany, b. i. s. 4.

Go in, and dress yourself *smug*, and leave the rest to me.

WYCHERLY, Love in a Wood, a. iv. s. 1.

H.A.D.

2. To conceal: an abbreviation of smuggle. "They *smugged* it up, and told nobody nothing about it."

SMUT. A disease incident to growing corn—a powdery blackness resembling soot. "The wheat has got the *smut*," or, "is covered with *smut*." BUNT is a more strictly local term, which see.

G.&P. H.S.

SMUTS. The small particles of soot which are dispersed from a chimney, and soil everything on which they descend. "The *smuts* fell all over the clothes as they hung out to dry."

SMUT-BALLS. Puff-balls. Lycoperdons. BUNT is here again correlative with SMUT.

SMUTCH. To defile or begrime with *smut* or coal. "You've *smutched* your face all over."

What! hast *smutch'd* thy nose?

Winter's Tale, i. 2.

2. To burn without flame or any appearance of fire except smoke. In the United States, as in Scotland, it is pronounced *smootch*.

SNACK. A hasty snap between meals; a slight repast taken hastily. "I'll just take a *snack* before I start" is commonly said when any one is going a journey. Jamieson inserts the word, and says Ramsay speaks of them,—

——— that drink and dinna pay,

But tak' a *snack* an run away.

M.S. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SNACKS. "To go *snacks*." To partake; to share equally. When a number of boys are playing at marbles, one boy will often say to another, "Let us two go *snacks*:" *i. e.* unite stock, and share equally the profit or loss: go halves. *Snags* is equivalent in Leicestershire.

I was in hopes of a *snack* of the plunder.

SOUTHERNE'S Fatal Marriage, a. iii.

G.&P. M.S. C.S. H.A.D.

SNAFFLE. } Dialectical variations of the same word.
 SNOFFLE. } To speak through the nose, or snuff up, as
 SNIFFLE. } children do who have a cold in the head.

Ash notices the first as a local word; Richardson defines it, "The *nose*; that which snifts or *snaffles*."

H.H.app. H.S. H.A.D.

SNAG. A rent at right angles; if longitudinal, it is a *slit*. The Leicestershire Glossarist being the only one who inserts this word, we may presume it is peculiar to the midland district. We also use it verbally: "I have *snagged* my gown." A *snag* is generally made by catching the dress upon anything pointed—a nail or a thorn.

2. To hew or cut roughly with an axe.

B.N.C. C.C. T.G.

3. A rough protuberance or KNARL on a tree. "Knurs, knobs, *snags*, or bunches in trees." (Florio, p. 162.) *Snag* is used in the United States for a tree lodged or sunk in a river, and projecting from the bottom so as to injure or destroy vessels which come in contact with it.

Which with a staff all full of little *snags*.

SPENSER'S Faërie Queen.

C.C. F.E.A. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SNAGGY. Tetchy, peevish, fretful; chiding pettishly. "Mother's so *snaggy*, there's no such thing as pleasing her." Belonging metaphorically to the noun. A Northern expression.

G. M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SNAIL'S GALLOP. A slow, dronish pace, like the motion of a snail. Used ironically.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

SNAIL-HORN. Snail-shell, whether inhabited or not.

So called by Clare in his poem on his native village—
Helpstone.

E.L. H.A.D.

SNAKE-STONES. Ammonites. A name obtained from the vulgar and ignorant notion that this fossil shell terminates with the head of a snake.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SNAP. The same as SNACK. A morsel taken hastily.

M.S. H.A.D.

SNARL. To curl up into knots, as hard twisted silk, thread, or cord. An old word for entangle.

J.S. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SNASTE or SNEESTE. The burnt wick of a candle. Old English nearly obsolete.

R.N.C. G. M.S. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SNATCHY. Irritable, hard to please, snappish.

SNATHE.	}	The crooked handle or long shank of a mowing scythe. A.-Sax. <i>sneath</i> . A.-Sax. <i>snæd</i> .
SNED.		
SNITHE.		

R.S.E.C. G. B.N.C. H.S. T.G. H.P.

SNEAKING KINDNESS. To have a *sneaking kindness* for a lady is to have a timid or concealed affection for her. *Sneaking notion* is equivalent in America.

SNEW. The old preterite of snow. Used by Chaucer and others.

G.&P. M.S. C.C. B.N.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SNIB or SNUB. To reprove or rebuke tartly. A very ancient word, still in common use. "To *snibbyn*, reprehendo." (Prompt. Parv.)

But if were any person obstinate,
Whether he were of high or low estate,
Him woulde he *snibb* sharply for the nones.

CHAUCER, Prol. Cant. Tale.

Go you, and reprove hym, or *snybbe* bitwixe yee and hym
aloone.

WICLIF MS. Matt. xviii.

It's an hard case when men of good deserving
Must either driven be perforce to sterving,
Or asked for their pas by everie squib
That list at will them to revile or *snib*.

SPENSER's Hubb. Tale, l. 370.

T.G. H.A.D.

SNICKLE. A snare used by poachers for taking hares.
Used also verbally.

G.&P. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. H.A.D.

SNIFTING or SNUFTING. Drawing in the air smartly
up the nose, in order to detect an offensive smell, or
imbibe a fragrant one.

As *snifting* and *snufting* the clodhopper goes,
And, finding no sweetness for charming his nose,
Frail beauty's delusion soon wearied his eye;
And away the gay flowret he heedlessly throws,
To wither unnoticed and die.

CLARE's Rural Life (1821), p. 107.

SNIG. To sneak, to go away slyly. "He *snig'd* off."

SNIGGERING. Laughing jeeringly, tittering sarcastically.

SNIGGLE. A snail shell. Also applied by children to
all turbinated fossil shells. A.-Saxon *snægel*, *sneGGLE*.

2. To snare: similar to SNICKLE. To lay baits for catch-
ing eels in their holes. Sometimes used metaphorically
for inveigling or securing a person by stratagem.

"Have you remember'd what we thought of?"

"Yes, Sir; I have *snigled* him."

BEAUM. & FL. Thierry and Theod. ii. 2.

SNIPE. A pendant icicle; a name obtained from the
resemblance to the long bill of the bird so called. Evans
gives this word as current in Leicestershire. There are
various synonymes in other counties. In Kent, *cobbels*;
in Devonshire, *clink-a-bell*; in Somersetshire, *clinker-*

bell; and in Brockett's North Country Words. See SHOGGLE

E.L.

SNIPPER-SNAPPER. A small, insignificant, effeminate, self-conceited young man. WHIPPER-SNAPPER is an epithet nearly correspondent.

H.P. H A D.

SNITCHEL. A tool used in thatching.

SNIVE. As I am indebted to a friend for this word, it will be best explained by the example given. "The room was as full as it could *snive*." Clare adopts it in one of his recent MS. poems.

The violets by the woodland side,
As thick as they could *snive*,
I've talk'd to them with childish pride,
As things that were alive.

H.A.D.

SNIVEL. To shrink, to shrivel: this meaning of the word appears to be peculiar to this district, but is in common use with us. Fruit that is over-ripe and withered is said to be *snivel'd* up; meat that is old and shrinks in boiling *snivels* up; anything that shrinks much in washing *snivels* up, particularly flannel.

SNIVELING. Shrinking and contracting the body from cold. "Why do you sit *sniveling* over the fire?" is often said to a person sitting with the feet on the fender, and the knees up to the chin. "I'm so cold, I could *snivel* into a nut-shell." "How *snivel'd* and old he looks." Metaphorically it is used as a designation for a mean, stingy person. "He's a *sniveling* fellow."

SNIVELING-FROST. A hoar-frost, a rimy frost.

SNIVING. Raw, cold, and sleety. Used in speaking of the weather. "It is very *sniving* weather."

SNOFFLE. See SNAFFLE.

2. The nose or snout of a pig or other animal.

SNOKE. To smell; to go prying about curiously; to manifest a zealous curiosity: rarely used. Cotgrave interprets "*Halener*, to vent, *snooke*, wind, smell, or search out." A Northern word, according to Jamieson and Brockett. Halliwell refers it to Lincolnshire.

SNOOZE. A short nap; a doze.

P.D. H.A.D.

SNOOZING. Nestling and dozing; lying snug and warm.

SNOUT. The dry and shrivelled remnants of the calyx of the flower of gooseberries, apples, pears, &c.

SNOW-BALL. The flowers of the guelder-rose.

SNOW-BONES. Remnants of snow after a frost.

G.&P. H.A.D.

SNOW IN HARVEST. A provincial sarcasm for want of kindness. "He looks as cold as *snow in harvest*." Biblical. See Proverbs xxvi. 1.

SNOWZE. To pry into, to FERRIT about. "Don't come *snowzing* after me."

SNUB. See **SNIB**.

M.S. B.N.C. H.H. H.A.D.

SNUBBY. Blunt. "What a *snubby* point you've got to your pencil."

SNUDDY. Sulky, glum.

SNUDGE. To walk with short, slow steps, setting up the shoulders, and inclining the head forward. "See how the old man goes *snudging* along."

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SNUFF. "Up to *snuff*," quick of perception. If a person possesses more than a neighbour's share of acuteness or penetration, the phrase often runs thus, "Up to *snuff*, and a pinch above it."

SNUFFLING. Paltry, mean, sneaking. "A *snuffling* fellow."

SNUFTING. Drawing in the breath audibly through the nostrils.

SNUFTY. Quick to take offence.

SNUGGLE. To lie close together for convenience or warmth; to lie snug in bed. Seldom used except in familiar language, and most frequently to children: nearly allied to NUZZLE.

M.S. H.A.D.

SNUGGERY. A snug little room.

H.A.D.

SNUSH. To bend. "It *snushes* round there."

SNURL'D. Synonymous with KNARL'D; applied to knotty wood.

SNYTHER. See SNATHE.

SO. Nearly, thereabouts. "It cost seven shillings or so."
"It's four miles or so."

C.C. H.A.D.

SOB. To soak, to sop. "The land is very *sobby*," *i.e.* soaked with wet. *Sobbed* is so used in Warwickshire. Holloway gives *sabbed* with a similar definition.

M.S. H.A.D.

SOCK. To throw. A boy said "I saw a wild duck in the river, and it let me *sock* at it before it flew up." Amongst schoolboys it has the additional signification of to PUNCH, to beat. This latter sense occurs in Bailey's Cant Terms.

SODS. Square pieces of clay for draining, cut from ploughed land instead of turf.

SODDEN. Saturated, and deadened by long continuance in hot water. A washerwoman's hands are *sodden* which have been all day in the suds. The commonly received meaning in the Dictionaries is *boiled*; but we restrict it as above.

SOFT-SAWDER. Flattery.

SOFT-SOAP. Synonymous with the preceding word:

both have travelled to America, and are inserted in Bartlett.

SOFT. Moist, mild. Applied to the weather.

SOG. To soak, to imbibe moisture. "If you don't make the roof pretty STEER for thatching, the wet will *sog* in." Kersey, Ash, and others have "*Sug*, to soak in water."

H.A.D.

SOGGED. Saturated with wet. Shoes are *sogged*, when they are soaked through with wet and mud.

SOGGY or SUGGY. Boggy, swampy, as unsound land. *Saggie* is used in Scotland, according to Jamieson, for wet land.

H.A.D.

SOLD UP. When a man has become bankrupt or insolvent, and his property is disposed of for the benefit of his creditors, he is said to be *sold up*.

H.A.D.

SOLDIER. Another local name for the field poppy. *Papaver Rhæas*. See BLIND-EYES. A name, I presume, common to the Midland District, as Cowper in one of his poems calls poppies "the *soldiers* of the field."

SOLDIER. The small beetle known to entomologists as the *Cantharis livida*. (Linn.)

SOLDIER-BANDY. The stickleback. See JACK SHARPLING. This little fish at certain seasons of the year, and in particular brooks, becomes of a brilliant crimson, purple, and green colour, which has probably originated the name with children. It is also called STANSTICKLE, which see.

SOLDIER'S CAPS. The flowers of the monkshood, which are also named POPE'S ODE and TURK'S CAP.

SOLDIER-PINK. The minnow, called by ichthyologists the *Cyprinus Proximus*. (Linn.) This fish, like the SOLDIER-BANDY, assumes under the same circumstances, the same brilliant and varied colours, whence the name.

SOLID. Grave, steady. "He looks very *solid* to day."
 "He's a nice *solid* lad."

C.C. H.S. L.H. H.A.D.

SOLING. A mode of punishing a dog who intrudes upon a person's premises, by tying an old tin kettle or other metallic substance to his tail, and turning him loose, which fails not to annoy him and make him cry out; and as he runs away, endeavouring to escape from it, a host of boys and hostile curs, attracted by the noise, follow in his train. *Twitchel* is correlative in Warwickshire. Palsgrave has "*Sole*, a bow about a beestes neck;" from which our word has doubtless originated.

SOM-DELL. In some measure, somewhat.

So that the moone in *somdele* faded,
 And made not fully shine clere.

GOWER, fo. cxlv.

SOO, SOO, SOOE, MY WENCH! Used to cows, to soothe and quiet them during the process of milking.

SO-OAKES. A call to sheep.

SOODLE. To go slowly and unwillingly along. Halliwell gives it as used in the North; but none of the Northern Glossaries notice it.

Chattering at a neighbour's house,
 She hears call out her frowning spouse;
 Prepared to start, she *soodles* home,
 Her knitting twirling o'er her thumb:
 As loth to leave, afraid to stay,
 She bawls her story all the way.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 125.

And as I *soodled* on and on,
 The ground was warm to look upon.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 74.

Quite weary she *soodled* along through the dew,
 And oft look'd and listen'd around.

Ibid. p. 155.

SOODLING or SOODLY. Sauntering lazily along. Of frequent occurrence in the poems of Clare.

How half a ninny he was like to be,
 To go so *soodling* up and down the street,
 And shun the playing boys whene'er they chanced to meet.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 19.

A road swept gently round the hill,
 From whose high crown, as *soodling* by,
 A distant prospect cheer'd my eye.

Ibid. p. 72.

Young Hodge the horse-boy with a *soodly* gait
 Slow climbs the stile, or opes the creaky gate.

Ibid. vol. ii. p. 67.

SOONER. Rather. "I'd *sooner* go than not."

E.L.

SORE. Swore. "He *sore* awful."

SORTS. "Out of *sorts*," out of temper, or out of health.

SOSH. To dip, as in flight, to plunge suddenly.

I love to see these chimney sweeps (crows) sail by,
 And hear them o'er the knarled forest croak;
 Then *sosh* askew from the hid woodman's stroke.

CLARE'S MS. Poem "The Crow."

SOSS. To throw a liquid from one vessel to another.

J.S. H.A.D.

2. Puddle, anything foul or muddy.

R.N.C. G. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SOSSLINGS. Tea-leaves after they have been infused.

SOTTER. To boil gently, to simmer. Acknowledged by Jamieson.

B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SOUGH (pronounced *suff*). A covered drain of any size. Hartshorne inserts *Suff*, and observes, "This must be entirely our own;" but he is mistaken, for it is current in Northamptonshire.

G. H.H. E.L. H.A.D.

SOUNDED. Swooned, fainted. "I was so *frit*, I thought I should a' *sounded*." Forby was unacquainted with this form of the word, or he would not have remarked under *Swound*, which we also use, that in the Variorum

Edition of Shakspeare it is printed *sounded*, which he presumes is the Editor's ignorance. Both forms are good old English, both equally common with us, and both authorised by our early poets and dramatists. Palsgrave has "I *sownde*, I downe in a *sownde* for fayntness." Todd notices *swound*, not *sound*. Jamieson gives *sound* both as a noun and verb.

Much was he daunted with that direfull stound,
That scarce he him upheld from falling in a *sound*.

SPENSER, Faërie Queene, Bk. iv. c. 4.

The young lady hearing these news, fell down in a *sound* before him, and neither spoke nor stirred of long time.

NORTH, Plutarch, p. 554.

C.C. H.A.D.

SOUNDLY. Severely, sharply. "I gave it him *soundly*,"
i e. gave him a good castigation, or severe reprimand.

C.C. H.A.D.

SOUP or SUP. A draught, a small quantity, of any liquid. "He wants a *sup* o' beer." "Fetch a *soup* of milk."

H.S. "Sup." E.L. "Soop."

SOUPLE. To make soft and pliant. Cotgrave gives it as an adjective, "*Soupple*, limber, pliant, tender."

T.G. H.A.D.

SOUR. Coarse, acid, bitter. Applied to grass which grows on cold, wet soil, or on land which has been over-manured. "The grass is so *sour*, the cattle won't eat it." Shakspeare alludes to this peculiar taste in the grass, in Prospero's apostrophe to the Fairies.

Ye elves . . . You demi-puppets, that

By moonshine do the green sour ringlets make.

Tempest, v. 1.

Douce in his Illustrations of Shakspeare, not being acquainted with the local use of this word, proposes to substitute *sward* for *sour*, and append it to green, thus forming the two adjectives into one.

H.A.D.

SOUSE. A smart blow, a great thump. "If you don't get out o' th' way, you'll get a good *souse* o' th' yed."

With hideous horror both together smight,
And *souce* so sore that they the heavens affray.

SPENSER, *Faërie Queene*, Bk. i. c. 5.

But when the falconers take their hawking poles in hand,
And, crossing of the brook, do put it over land;
The hawk gives it a *souce* that makes it to rebound,
Well near the hight of man sometimes above the ground.

DRAYTON's *Polyolbion*, s. 20.

Halliwell notices this word and illustrates it with the following apt quotation.

Yf he saw any men or women devoutlye knele,
For to serve God with theyr prayer, or stande,
Pryvely behynde them woulde he steale,
And geve them a *souce* with his hande.

Roberte the Devyll, p. 11.

M.S. "Sowse." B.N.C. H.S. H.A.D.

SOUSE. To dash violently in the water, to plunge, to immerse, almost correspondent to DOUCE, and to DUCK. To fall suddenly into any miry place. "He came down full *souse*." In this sense Palsgrave gives it: "I *souce* a thyng, I plynge it in the water, or in the myer." "He *souced* him in the water over head and ears."

A little *sows'd* in the water; Needle sav'd him.

BEN JONSON. *The Magnetic Lady*, iii. 5.

All our fair machine *souze* into the sea.

FARQUHAR's *Beaux Stratagem*, a. v.

H.A.D.

SOUTER. A cobbler. A.-Sax. *sutere*. Obsolete.

H.A.D.

SOW. "To get the wrong *sow* by the ear," *i. e.* to get hold of a wrong statement, or to be mistaken in the person against whom you are making an accusation.

2. A small simple kind of GIN for moving timber.

3. See OLD-SOW.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

SPACT. Sharp, acute, intelligent; almost invariably used negatively for any one deficient in intellect. "He's not *spact*, he's quite a poor cratur." It is so applied in Cheshire and Leicestershire. Coles, Ash, and Bailey define it, "Apt to learn." Ash calls it local. Probably an abbreviated corruption of *circumspect*.

R.N.C. G. W.C. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SPADE-BONE. The blade-bone, or shoulder-bone. The scapula of an animal slaughtered for food.

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. "Spate-bone." H.P. H.A.D.

SPALSKY. Snappy, brittle, as the boughs of chesnut or poplar trees.

SPALT. Rhyming to malt. To chip, to splint. When a stone-mason is chiseling a stone, and it chips off at the edge, or a carpenter is working brittle or KNARLY wood, that splits off, he would say "It *spalts* off."

H.P. H.A.D.

SPALTERED. Split off.

SPALTINGS. Branches of trees that are broken off, or riven by the wind.

SPAN AND PURLEY QUE. A mode resorted to by boys of measuring distances, particularly at marbles. Not common. Brockett notices this term, and also gives "*Spang*, a measure by the hand extended."

SPANGLES. See JINGLES.

SPANKING. Moving with quickness and elasticity. "He goes a *spanking* pace." A horse that goes freely and swiftly goes *spanking* along.

F.E.A.

2. Striking with the open hand. A chastisement for children. "I'll give you a good *spanking*," or "What a *spank* I gave her."

M.S.

3. Large; applied both to persons and things. "Give me a *spanking* piece of bread." A tall, masculine young woman would be called "a *spanking* lass." It possesses

the same meaning as STRAPPING. Of a fine horse it would be said, "He's a *spanker*." This word with all its varieties is very general in low colloquial language.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.S. T.G. H.P.

SPANNER. A wrench. Marshall calls it "a nut screw-driver."

SPAN-NEW. Quite new. A friend has suggested that *span-new* signifies *newly spun*, which seems a more simple and satisfactory derivation than that proposed by Todd. Its use is at least contemporary with Chaucer, who says "This tale was aie *span newe* to begin." It also occurs in Beaumont and Fletcher.

Am I not totally a *span-new* gallant,
Fit for the choicest eye?

False One, iii. 2.

R.S.E.C. M.S. H.H. T.G. H.A.D.

SPAR. To dispute pettishly.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SPAR-DUST. The dust from wood that is perforated by insects.

H.P.

SPARKLE or SPIRTLE. To splash, to sprinkle. "He rode so fast he *sparkled* the mud all over me." I borrow the following illustration from Halliwell.

The chyldys clothys, ryche and gode,
He had *sparklyde* with that blode.

MS. Cantab. Ff. ii. 38, f. 67.

G. H.P. H.A.D.

SPARROW-BEAKS. Fossil shark's teeth: called also birds' beaks.

SPARROW-BILLS. } Short nails without heads, used
SPARRABLES. } by shoemakers; supposed to have
obtained the name from their resemblance to the bill of that bird; the second name is merely a rapid pronunciation of the first. Kersey has *Sparables* or *Sparrow-bills*,

which he explains "small iron nails, which country people wear in their shoes." The Craven Glossarist cites the following illustration:—

His busie pate was full of parables,
His soul was prickt as 'twere with *sparables*.

Mar. p. 127.

W.C.app. C.C. H.H. T.G. H.A.D. "*Sparabills*."

SPARS. The timbers used for roofing, the rafters of a house; the two which form the gable end are called the *guide-spars*. Palsgrave has "*sparre* of a rofe." We may presume, from the annexed quotation, that spar and rafter were not synonymous in Chaucer's time. *Spar* is familiarly employed figuratively when a person is faint from hunger: "The *spars* have given way."

And by assaut he won the citee after,
And rent adown bothe wall and *sparre* and rafter.

CHAUCER, Kn. Tale.

That, though thikke of many a barre,
Of yren gret, and square as any *sparre*.

Ibid.

H.A.D.

SPEAKS WELL. A phrase which is best explained by example. If a person labouring under suspicion brings forward any extenuating circumstance, "*it speaks well* for him;" or, if a servant maid out of her small wages assists her relations or friends, "*it speaks well* for her."

SPEARY. Shooting up long and slender.

And *speary* barley, bowing down with dew.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 104.

SPECIAL. Good, excellent; in particular favour. "She's a *special* favourite."

H.A.D.

SPEECHIFY. To harangue; to hold forth at a public meeting. Bartlett inserts it, and remarks that it is not peculiar to America, though it is not in any English dictionary.

SPEER or SPEIR. To inquire, to ask. "*Speer* it out if you can." A.-Sax. *spirian*. In Palsgrave we have, "I *spurre*, I ask a questyon: this terme is farre northerne." Still very common in Scotland. See Jamieson. With us it is almost obsolete. There are numerous authorities in Chaucer and others for its early use. In Cheshire and some parts of Yorkshire pronounced *sper*.

Gif thai *spere* quhy I did this booke translate.

DOUGLAS, Virg.

In Huntynghtonschire the kyng in that forest
A moneth lay, to *spire* for wod and wilde beste.

R. BRUNNE, p. 112.

On loud he *speir'd* what art thou?

Poetical Hist. of Sir Wm. Wallace.

Good Robin *speer'd* how they had sped,
They answered him full ill.

EVANS' Old Ballads, vol. ii. p. 208.

"Robin Hood and the Beggar."

The schoolboy knew not where to *speer*,
The milkmaid pass'd it every day.

CLARE'S MS. Poems. "The Lonely Flower."

R.N.C. "*Sparre*." B.N.C. W.C.app. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.
SPELE. } All dialectical variations for a long, thin
SPELL. } slip of wood, or rolled-up slip of paper, used
SPILL. } for the purpose of lighting a candle, &c.
A.-Sax. "*speld*, a torch, spill to light candle, &c."

C.C. L.H. T.G. H.A.D.

SPEND. To produce well. Corn that yields well is said to *spend* well. Hence, in using anything, if more efficient than was anticipated, it is said to *spend* well.

M.S.

SPENT. Exhausted. "My strength's quite *spent*."

SPESHUSLY. Especially. The Craven Glossarist and Halliwell spell it "*speciously*;" but our orthography best accords with the pronunciation, and distinguishes it from *speciously*, plausibly.

SPEW. The fourth swarming of bees—a rare occurrence.

The first is simply termed a *swarm*; the second, a *cast*; the third, a *colt*; the fourth, a *spew*, probably from casting forth the super-abundant occupants of the hive. See CAST and COLT.

SPICE. A slight taste of anything; a resemblance in temper and habits. “He’s got a *spice* of his old father.”

SPICY. Knowing, cunning, droll-looking.

2. Neat, dapper, smart. “He looks very *spicy*.”

SPICK-AND-SPAN NEW. Quite new, used or worn for the first time. Nares says, not entirely disused. With us it is very general, and I believe is current all over the kingdom; but as some of my Glossarial predecessors have given it admission, I have, in accordance with my general plan, inserted it here. BRAN-NEW and SPAN-NEW, before given, have the same meaning.

Among other things, Blackfriars will entertain you with a play *spick and span new*, and the Cock-pit with another.

HOWELL, b. i. let. 2. (Richardson.)

And they (Macedonians) were all in goodly gilt armours and brave purple cassocks upon them, *spick and span new*.

NORTH, Plutarch, p. 213.

G. M.S. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

SPIDER-CATCHER. The spotted Fly-catcher or Beam-bird. *Muscicapa grisola*. (Linn.) For the applicability of this name see its synonyme COBWEB.

SPIFF. Dapper, dandified.

SPIFLICATE. To surprise, astonish, confound. A low, quaint word. “I am wholly *spiflicated*.”

M.S.

SPILE-PEG. A vent-peg for a barrel, called also *Air-peg* and *Wind-peg*.

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

SPINDLING. Thin, slender; spoken of vegetation.

Growing corn, that is tall and weak, is said to be *spindling*. Moor and Halliwell give the verb.

Let hazels grow, and *spindling* sedge,
Bent bowering over head;
Dig OLD MAN'S BEARD from woodland hedge,
To twine a summer shade.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 84.

How sweet it used to be, when April first
Unclosed the arum-leaves, and into view
Its ear-like *spindling* flowers their cases burst,
Betinged with yellowish white or lushy hue.

Ibid. p. 98.

The fields of *spindling* grain.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 188.

SPINK. See PINK.

SPINNEY. A small plantation, larger than a PINGLE, but not amounting to a wood. Latin *spinetum*. Halliwell remarks that it occurs in Domesday Book in this sense; but I am informed by those who have often consulted that record, that *spinetum* refers to woods of considerable extent. Ash is the only lexicographer who notices this word; he calls it local, and defines it "a plantation of young timber trees, a young coppice." Hartshorne is the only authority for this word out of the midland district, and he observes it is "much in use among the Cornavii or dwellers in the midland counties, but more especially the Coritani and Catuellani." (See Ordnance Surveys.) According to Nares it is sometimes called *spinet*. Evans recognises the term in Leicestershire. Moor differs from us, and explains it, "a small, longish, irregular piece of land overgrown with brushwood for game." Halliwell says, in Buckinghamshire a brook is called a *spinney*.

Welcome, pale primrose, starting up between
Dead matted leaves of ash and oak, that strew
The every lawn, the wood, and *spinney* through,
And creeping moss, and ivy's darker green.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1820), p. 194.

Anemonies and lilies of the valley
 Cover whole acres of the forest glade,
 And blue-bells that in woods and *spinnies* dally,
 Beneath the oak tree and the hazel shade;
 The bushiest place is like a carpet made.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

SPINNING STREET-WEBS. Walking about idly, gossiping from house to house. "She has nothing better to do than *spinning street-webs*."

SPIRES. Young trees that shoot up a considerable height before they branch out and form a head, in contradistinction to **DOTTRELS**. Ash and elm *spires* often occur in notices for the sale of timber. The Craven Glossarist gives, "*Spire*, a young tree." Jamieson calls it a small, tapering tree; generally of the fir kind, and of size fit for paling.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SPIRITY. More commonly pronounced *sperty*. Lively, full of fire, spirited. Jamieson has it. We also apply it to a high-tempered servant. "She's so *spirity* she won't bear speaking to."

C.C. H.A.D.

SPIRT. A sudden, unpremeditated action; a sudden effort or fit, of short continuance. "It was only a *spirt*, he soon tired of his job," is often said when any one sets to work eagerly with something new, and his ardour soon cools. The first start or sudden rear up of a restive horse is called "the first *spirt*."

M.S. "Spert." H.A.D.

SPIRTLE. See **SPARKLE**.

SPIT. The depth of earth pierced by one insertion of the spade. A spade's depth thrown out in digging. "Go a *spit* deep," or, "two *spit* deep," is a common direction to a workman when digging a piece of ground:

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To drop of rain. "It only just *spits* of rain." Harts-horne says, "*spots* of rain;" and so do we, as frequently as *spits*.

C.C. H.A.D.

SPITCH. A lump of earth cut out by a spade; a spade-full. I am indebted to a friend on the eastern side of the county for this word, who thus defines it: "Fetch a couple of *spitches* of clay out of that pit."

SPITTER. A slight shower.

M.S.

SPLASH. To beat down walnuts with a pole.

2. "To cut a *splash*." To make a great show; to be smart or gaily dressed; to ape the fashion. "What a *splash* he cuts!"

H.P. H.A.D.

3. To *splash* a hedge, is to cut away the rough wood by the side of the ditch, and lay in the smooth, trimming it up on the ditch side. *PLASH*, which see, is nearly synonymous. In some parts of the county, merely cutting off the top, about three feet from the ground, without interweaving it, is termed *splashing*, and Evans so describes it in Leicestershire.

C.C. E.L.

SPLAT. The rails or staves used for the framing of a chair. The flat steps of a ladder bear the same name.

SPLATHERDAB. A woman who goes from house to house dispensing news.

SPLATHERDABBING. The act of retailing news.

SPLATHERDASH. A tawdrily-dressed female. "She's a regular *splatherdash*." Also used adjectively, as, "What a *splatherdashing* thing she is."

SPLATTER-DASHING. Large and wide-spreading; anything so large and full as to have an awkward appearance.

SPLATTERING. Spreading widely; nearly correspondent with the preceding word. If a small piece of meat were sent to table on a very large dish, it would be said, "Why do you put that little bit of meat on such a great *splattering* dish?"

2. Splashing about in water so as to make a noise, as a number of boys bathing together in shallow water.

SPLIRT or SPLURT. To spirt out or eject liquid from the mouth or through a small orifice.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

SPLIT. To impeach, or betray confidence. If one of a gang of thieves or housebreakers betray his confederates and turn queen's evidence against them, he is said to *split*. It is also used in a milder sense, when a friendship is broken, or a partnership in trade dissolved from disagreement.

SPLIT-LIFT. A narrow strip of leather split in two, which forms the *lift*, or seat of a shoe, as it is technically termed, in place of a **RAND**.

2. "Done up to a *split-lift*:" *i. e.* come to his last shift, or last extremity. A metaphor from the preceding word.

SPLUTTER. To sputter, to talk fast and inarticulately.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D

- **SPOKE.** "To put a *spoke* in your wheel:" *i. e.* to say something to your injury or prejudice, calculated to impede your obtaining some desired object. "*Spoke* your cart" is a phrase of similar significancy, but less current.

H.A.D.

SPOKE-SHAVE. A narrow plane, used for smoothing the narrow part of a wheel. "*Spoke-shave* or a plane." (Palsgrave)

C.C. "Speak-shave." H.S. H.A.D.

SPOLT. Synonymous with **SPALT**.

SPONG or **SPUNG**. A small, narrow slip of land, generally an entrance into a field; or a neck of land connecting one piece of land with another, or separating one estate or parish from another; in which latter case the word is often used participially, as, "It run *spunging* up," or, "It runs *spunging* along."

G.&P. M.S. F.E.A. H.A.D.

SPONSABLE. Responsible, fit to be trusted.

C.C.

SPONTIOUSLY. A superlative expression of approbation. "That will do *spontiously*."

SPOONEY. Grose defines it, "a man who has been drinking till he becomes disgusting; a stupid or silly fellow." We use it only in the latter sense. "He's quite a *spooney*;" he has hardly sense enough to guide himself.

SPORE. The old preterite of spare. "They *spore* me a little milk." "I would go if I could be *spore*."

SPORT. To exhibit, generally for the first time; to make a show of. "Mr. H. *sported* a new carriage to-day, and his wife *sported* a new bonnet." This very common word is not in Todd. Grose says it was in great vogue in this sense in the years 1783 and 1784.

H.A.D.

SPOT. See **SPIT**.

SPOTTLE. To splash or spot with mud or dirty liquid. "How you *spottle* the ink about!"

H.S. L.H. H.A.D.

SPOUT. "He's up the *spout*." A phrase applied to a person in a state of bankruptcy.

2. To put anything up the *spout* is to place it in pawn. A term come into use from pawnbrokers frequently putting their things from one story to another through a *spout*.

SPRACK. Shrewd, intelligent. I have never heard this Shaksperian word out of the Whittlebury Forest District, but I believe it is not uncommon there. On making inquiry of the parish clerk of Syresham as to some local points of information, he replied, "I don't know who can tell you; we've got never a *sprack* man in our village now." Nares defines this word, "Quick, alert; pronounced *sprag* by Sir Hugh Evans, in the Merry Wives of Windsor, in conformity with the dialect attributed to him." Steevens observes, "*Sprag* is used in the neighbourhood of Bath, where it signifies ready, alert, sprightly, and is pronounced as if written *sprack*;" and in this sense it occurs in Jamieson and in the Waverley Novels. Malone supplies an example from the Supplement to Colley Cibber's Life:—

Mr. Dogget was a little, lively, *sprack* man.

Which agrees with our use of the word.

He is a good *sprag* memory.

Merry Wives of Windsor, iv. 1.

G. A.W. L.H. H.A.D.

SPRAT-BARLEY. A large species of barley with very long beards or AILS. Moor says it is the *Hordeum vulgare* of Linn. This term was current in Morton's time, and I find it is still preserved.

M.S. H.A.D.

SPRAWT. To spread out. "Don't *sprawl* your gown out so."

SPRAWT-FAGGOTS or SPRAWTY-FAGGOTS. Such as are made of small twigs; the cuttings of hedges. A.-Sax. *sprauta*.

SPRAWTS or SPROATS. (Pronounced broad, as if dissyllabic.) Small twigs; obviously corrupted from the verb to sprout. Halliwell has *Sprotes*, a variation of our word, "Fragments. Small wood or sticks for firing is still called *sprote-wood*." See SCRAILS.

SPRAYS. Twigs of hazel, sallow, or other pliant wood, used by thatchers to pin down the rods to the thatch when a new coat is put over an old one.

H.A.D.

SPRECKLED. Speckled.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.A.D.

SPREE. A LARK, a wild frolic. A modern word, widely spread; common also in America.

M.S. B.N.C. P.D. H.A.D.

SPRENT. Sprinkled. Urry, in his Glossary to Chaucer, gives "*Sprant, Sprenid, Sprint*, sprinkled," and observes, "they seem to come from the old word *sprene*, for sprinkle." Nares says the verb is supposed to have been *sprene*, from *sprenan*, A.-Sax. In the Glossary to Lindsay it is given as the past participle of *sprenge*, as in Robert of Gloucester and Wiclif, from the A.-Sax. *sprengan*. Bullokar recognises the word. Todd considers it obsolete; he illustrates it from Sidney:—

O lips! that kiss'd that hand with my tears *sprent*.

Nares quotes—

—— The blood, in lumps of gore,

Sprent on his corps and on his paled face.

Tancr. & Gism. O. Pl. ii. 217.

And otherwhere the snowy substance *sprent*

With vermell.

SPENSER, Faërie Queène, Bk. ii. c. 12.

The following may be added from Clare:—

To note on hedgerow baulks, in moisture *sprent*,

The jetty snail creep from the mossy thorn.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 11.

What hour the dewy morning's infancy

Hangs on each blade of grass and every tree,

And *sprents* the red thighs of the humble bee,

Who 'gins betimes unwearied minstrelsy.

Ibid. p. 36.

B.N.C. C.C. T.G. H.F. H.A.D.

SPRIG. The rose of a watering-can. See ROSE.

SPRING. The first and second years' growth of under-wood in a coppice after it has been cut. I am not aware that we use it in any of the other senses given by Moor and Forby.

2. To warp, as a board or plank.

H.P.

3. Halliwell, under *Spring*, says "To *spring* clothes is to moisten them a little previous to ironing." Jennings has "*Spring*, to moisten; to sprinkle." With us, to *spring* clothes is to spring or shake out the wrinkles previous to folding or sprinkling them down ready for ironing. This is done by two persons standing opposite to each other, holding the article (a sheet or tablecloth, for instance) between them, and after strongly pulling it lengthways uniting their hands and then raising them to separate them suddenly with a jerk, to the extent of the article, taking care to retain fast hold, and repeating the operation till it becomes quite smooth.

SPRINGE. A water-trap for birds, made of horsehair. Halliwell has "*Spring*, a snare for hares, birds, &c."

Let goats for food their loaded udders lend;
But neither *springes*, nets, nor snares employ.

DRYDEN.

With hairy *springes* we the birds betray,
Slight lines of hair surprise the finny prey.

POPE.

SPRING OF PORK. The lower part of a fore-quarter of pork divided from the neck. Nares observes, there is said to be no other name for that part, but in this he was mistaken; we also, and more commonly, call it the BREAST AND HAND.

Do you think, master, to be emperor
With killing swine? You may be an honest butcher,

Or allied to a seemly family of souse-wives.
 Can you be such an ass, my reverend master,
 To think these *springs of pork* will shoot up Cæsars?

BEAUM. and FL. "Prophetess," i. 3.

Sir, pray hand the *springe of pork* to me, pray advance the rump
 of beefe this way, the chine of bacon.

GAYTON, Fest. Notes, p. 96. (Nares.)

SPRINKLING. A number or quantity dispersed; applied both to persons and things. "There was a GOODISH *sprinkling* of people at the fair. We have a fine *sprinkling* of apples in the orchards."

H.A.D.

SPRINT. Lively. Phillips has "*Sprunt*, wonderful, lively, active, brisk," of which our word is probably a dialectical variation.

SPRITE. Quick, sharp. "He's a *sprite* little lad." An abbreviation of sprightly.

SPRITTLE. To sprinkle.

SPRITY. A term applied to wine or beer when the MOTHER or concreted matter is separated, and floats about in small particles; the wine or beer is then said to be *sprity*.

SPROATS. See SPRAWTS.

SPROTTLE. To struggle when rising from a fall.

SPRUNNY. A rustic name for a lover.

G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

2. Neat, spruce.

F.E.A. M.P. H.A.D.

SPRUNT. A sudden spring after leaping, kicking up when the fore-feet reach the ground. "The horse gave such a *sprunt*."

G.&P.

SPRUNTING. Playful kicking, the frolicksome playfulness of a well-fed horse. "He made such a plunging and *sprunting* there was no holding him."

SPRUZE. To burn straw over what is termed a back-pan, which is a copper-pan employed for turning or **WHELMING** over meat when baking on a hearth, after the ashes have been swept off. This primitive mode of cooking is now quite exploded, and the word has become obsolete from the disuse of the practice. Halliwell, on the authority of Moor's Suffolk MS., gives "*Sprouze*. This strange verb is equivalent to stir, or rouse up, or *uprouse* the fire. This may probably be its origin, with an accidental sibilant prefixed." *Spruze* is obviously a varied form of *sprowze*, and Halliwell also gives the still wider variation of "*Spruz*. To keep fire at the mouth of an oven, in order to preserve the heat."

SPRY. Spruce, neat, smart. "How *spry* she looks!" The same word in Somersetshire signifies "nimble, active."

SPUD. A small, narrow, short, weeding spade, or rather a very broad chisel, with a sufficiently long **STAIL**, or handle, to remove the weeds without stooping; not a short knife, as given by Todd.

M.S. H.A.D.

SPUDDY. Same as **PUDDY**, which see.

F.E.A.

SPULT. The old preterite of spill. "You've *spult* the milk all over the floor."

SPUN FINE. Just within time. "You *spun* it very fine, you were very near being too late." A very singular but very common expression.

SPUNFUL or **SPUNTLE.** A spoonful. I have never met with *spuntle* out of the county, though it is very common in it. *Spuntle* and *spunful* are used indefinitely for a small quantity, as "She gen me a *spuntle* of milk." "Make just a *spunful* of gruel."

SPUNG. See **SPONG.**

SPUNGE. In the process of bread-making, to mix the yeast with the flour is termed "setting *sponge*," synonymous with "setting leaven."

SPUNGY. Stingy, from the verb to *sponge*, to hang on others for maintenance.

I had rather *sponge* upon Morris, and sup upon a dish of Bohea scored behind the door.

FARQUHAR'S *Beaux Stratagem*, a. iv.

SPUNK. Mettle, spirit, vivacity. A metaphor from *spunk*, a spark of fire. Though stigmatized by Todd as a low and contemptible expression, it is defended by Brockett and Jamieson, and certainly sometimes finds its way into good society.

B.N.C. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

SPUNKY. Mettlesome, spirited.

F.E.A. P.D. H.A.D.

SPUNTLE. See SPUNFUL.

SPUR. "A *spur* in the head's worth two in the heel."

A common invitation to a person on horseback to take a parting glass; importing that the exhilarating liquor will animate the rider to incite the horse, more than the application of the spur.

SPURGE. To cleanse, to emit yeast from beer, when it is first tunned. "I think the beer will be clear, it *spurges* well." "I *spurge*, I clense as wyne or ale dothe in the vessel." Palsgrave. I am indebted to Halliwell for the subjoined illustration:—

A mouse on a tyme felle into a barelle of newe ale, that *spurgide*, ande myght not come out.

Gesta Romanorum, p. 406.

SPURLING. A wheel-track or rut; confined I believe to the Oxfordshire side of the county. Halliwell assigns it to Northumberland. A.-Sax. *spor*, a track.

2. A slough.

B.N.C. T.G.

SPURS. The strong lateral roots of a tree, or the side-shoots of a branch, particularly of a trained tree; shoots that grow out at the front of a branch are called fore-right spurs. A woodman often in felling a tree says, "The *spurs* were so strong I had hard work to grub up the roots." Todd defines *spurs*, the longest and largest root of a tree. Pope, in his commentary on Shakspeare, calls it an old word for the fibres of a tree. Knight, in his edition of Shakspeare, remarks, "We cannot find any authority for Pope's assertion. The support of a post placed in the ground is still technically called a *spur*. The large leading roots of a tree may, in the same way, have been called *spurs* from their lateral projections, which hold the plant firm and upright." Our signification precisely accords with Knight's conjecture, and with the sense in which Shakspeare uses it.

The strong-based promontory
Have I made shake, and by the *spurs*
Pluck'd up the pine and cedar.

Tempest, v. 1.

I do note,
That grief and patience rooted in him doth
Mingle their *spurs* together.

Cymbeline, iv. 2.

G.&P. H.A.D.

SQUAB. To splash liquid suddenly over any broad vessel in carrying. "You'll waste half that liquor, you *squab* it over so." In this sense SQUASH is synonymous.

2. A long square-edged cushion for the seat of a sofa, or for a pew at church or chapel.

H.A.D. T.G.

SQUAB-PIE. A pie made of apples, onions, and fat bacon. A very homely, but a favourite dish in the rural districts. Todd gives the name, but is ignorant of what it is compounded, and calls it "a pie of many ingredients." Bishop Kennett gives it as a West-country

dish; and it is noticed by the Devon. Glossarist. In the North and in Cheshire it is called a Fitchet Pie.

H.P. H.A.D.

SQUANDERING. Spreading about, as flowers that ask some friendly hand to tye them up. Wilbraham gives the verb, "to separate, to disperse."

SQUARE. To prepare to fight, to stand in a boxing attitude; also used conventionally when requesting persons to stand aside, or make room, when they press inconveniently. "Come, *square* round," *i.e.* widen the circle. Used by Shakspeare, in the first sense, both in *Much Ado About Nothing* and in the *Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Is there no young *squarer* now?

Much Ado, i. 1.

And now they never meet in grove or green,
By fountain clear, or spangled star-light sheen,
But they do *square*; that all their elves, for fear
Creep into acorn cups, and hide them there.

Mid. N. Dr. ii. 1.

M.S. H.H. H.A.D.

2. To balance accounts; to put things in order. To set things *square*, is to set them to rights.

SQUASH. *See* **SQUAB.**

SQUAT. To soothe a child into a state of quietude. "Do *squat* that child, Mary."

SQUAWKING. Making a bawling, indescribable noise, of deeper tone than a squeak or a scream.

And cowboy's whoops, and *squawking* brawls,
To urge the straggling heifer back.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 90.

SQUEAK-THRUSH. The missel-thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*. (Linn.)

SQUEECH. A wet, boggy place; a land-spring with no outlet; used substantively, as **QUEACHY** is adjectively.

H.A.D.

SQUEEG'D. } All varied forms of the preterite of
 SQUEZ. } *squeeze*, brushed, pressed, crowded incon-
 SQUOZE. } veniently. "I'm *squeeg'd* ammost to
 death." "I *squez* the lemons as dry as I could."
 "There was such a crowd, I thought they'd a' *squoze*
 the breath out of my body." Moor, Grose, Pegge,
 and Halliwell notice the first form; the second, I be-
 lieve, is peculiar to us; the third prevails in Leicester-
 shire, according to Evans; and is also quite common in
 Monmouthshire.

SQUELCH. To fall down heavily. "He came down
 full *squelch*."

A.W. E.L. H.A.D.

SQUELCHING. Awkwardly, bulky. "A great *squelching*
 man."

SQUEZ. See SQUEEG'D.

SQUIB. A small syringe used by children to eject water.

SQUIGGLE. To shake and wash a fluid about the mouth
 with the lips closed. A word probably formed from the
 sound produced.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SQUINDER. To burn faintly, as damp fuel, or a candle
 with a bad wick. "It *squinders* away." Very similar
 to SMOULDER, which is the meaning given to this word by
 Halliwell.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SQUINE. To squint.

E.L.

SQUINNY or SQUINNYING. Very thin, meagre,
 shrivelled, discontented, sour-looking. Such a person
 would be called "a poor *squinning* thing."

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SQUINNYING EYES. Very small eyes, with contracted
 eye-lids.

F.E.A. H.P.

SQUINT. A look, a casual inspection, a sly glance. "I just gave it a *squint*;" almost identical with **GLINE**.

SQUINY. To look askance. Nares calls this word a colloquial change of the verb "squint." Shakspeare uses it in *King Lear*, iv. 6.

I remember thine eyes well enough. Dost
Thou *squiny* at me?

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SQUISH-SQUASH. The noise made by the feet in walking over a swampy piece of ground. Moor gives *squash*; Forby *squish*. Our compound is in Holloway and Halliwell.

If nought was seen, he heard a *squish-squash* sound,
As when one's shoes the drenching waters fill.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 23.

SQUOZE. See **SQUEEG'D**.

STABBER. A person (generally a boy) who is employed to stitch the upper leathers of boots and shoes with an awl. It is not uncommon to see notices in the windows of journeymen shoemakers for *stabbers*. "Good *stabbers* wanted." "*Stabbing* boys wanted."

STADDLE. A wooden frame raised on low, broad-based stones; a support for a corn-rick. A.-Sax. *stadel*, a foundation. *Staddles* or *corn-staddles* frequently occur in notices of sales in our local papers.

The best, ye knowe,
For *staddles* let grow.

TUSSER.

Ash adopts our signification, and Moor remarks that he thinks he is in error.

R.N.C. G.&P. B.N.C. J.S. A.W. L.H. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

STAFF. "To keep the *staff* in your own hand," is to retain possession of your property, as a father does during his lifetime, in order to preserve his authority

over his children and secure their obedience. "To part with one's *staff*," is the reverse of the former phrase.

C.C. H.A.D.

STAG. To watch. When workmen are taking beer clandestinely, one of them keeps on the look out, to watch or "*stag* the master."

2. To take off the top of a hedge without laying it down.

STAG-HEADED. Said of a tree the upper branches of which are dead.

G.&P. H.A.D.

STAIL. The stalk of a flower or fruit.

2. The straight handle of various implements, *mop-stail*, *rake-stail*, &c. A.-Sax. *stela*. The orthography of this word varies in different dialects, as *stale*, *steale*, *steal*, *stele*.

And lerede men a ladel bygge with a long *stele*.

PIERS PLOWMAN.

Like a broad shak-fork with a slender *steale*.

Bp. HALL's Satires, p. lxxvii.

R.S.E.C G. M.S. W.C. C.C. H.H. C.S. H.S. L.H.

E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

STAKE-HEDGE. One made of thorns or wood, not grown on the spot, WATTLED or ETHERED from three to four feet high, without any long wood. The same as a DRY or DEAD hedge.

STALCHING. I am at a loss to define this word, and must leave it to explain itself by giving it as I heard it used. I learn on inquiry that it is not uncommon, though I can find no printed authority for it. "The horse came *stalching* up the yard and looked over the wall." "The horse went *stalching* along over the stones down the street." Probably a corruption of *stalking*.

STALK. To clog, to adhere. A term used by agricultural labourers when a field receives deeply and retains the impress of horses' feet (alias *clinkers*). "It *stalks* so

as horses can't come on the land; us war forced to DIBBLE it in." Sir Henry Dryden, to whom I am indebted for this word, informs me it is prevalent in Oxfordshire, as well as in his neighbourhood.

STALL. A shed, a temporary hut. Clare is my authority for this word. Halliwell inserts it as Northamptonshire.

STALLED or STALLED. Fixed, set fast in a slough or dirty road. "The waggon was welly *stallded* in the wood." The former word is most common.

He knew no troubles waggoners have known,
Of getting *stall'd* and such disasters drear.

CLARE's Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 25.

2. Satiated, cloyed. When any one is assisted bountifully at table, it is frequently said, "You've quite *stallded* me."

STANCHILS or STANCHIONS. The perpendicular iron bars of a casement window; the horizontal ones being termed SADDLE-BARS. Where there are stone mullions it is usual to place one in the centre of each, as described in Parker's Glossary of Gothic Architecture, but they are equally general where there are no mullions, if the windows are glazed with lead. Sometimes the term is erroneously applied to the window-sill. Palsgrave notices "*Stanchon* of a window, *croysee*."

G. B.N.C. 2nd ed. F.E.A. H.H. "Staunchions." T.G.
"Stenчил." H.P. H.A.D.

STAND. A small round pillar-and-claw table.

After supper a *stand* was brought in, with a brass vessel full of wine.

DRYDEN, Life of Clemenēs.

2. A large barrel set on end under a spout for the purpose of receiving rain-water. "A *water-stand*."

G.&P. M.S.

3. To set, to place. "*Stand* it there:" *i. e.* Set it there.

4. "I never *stand* to do it:" *i. e.* I do not take the trouble, I am not so particular.
5. A stall in a stable. Hence a stable of three or four *stands*. A building erected for the accommodation of spectators at races, &c. is also termed a *stand*.

C.C. H.A.D.

STAND IN. Cost. "It *stands* me *in* so much:" *i. e.* It cost me so much. "It *lays* me *in* so much" is an equivalent expression. Amongst the numerous significations in Todd, of *stand* and its compounds, this is overlooked.

STAND OVER. To remain unpaid, unadjusted, unsettled. "I can't decide now, it must *stand over*, and the little debt must *stand over* too."

STANSTICKLE. A small fish. The *Gasterosteus aculeatus*. (Linn.) Its name is obviously derived from the A.-Sax. *stan*, stone, and *sticel*, a prick, a sting, from its habit of frequenting rivulets and small streams with pebbly bottoms, against which it is protected by having its body underneath covered by a bony process, set with sharp spines. Fishing for it with a piece of thin twine or thread for a line, and a crooked pin for a hook, is a favourite amusement of juvenile anglers. It is now more commonly or frequently called BANDY. JACK-BANDY or SOLDIER-BANDY. For the surprising fecundity of this fish, see *Stanstickle*, Forby.

H.P. H.A.D.

STARK or STARKY. Stiff, dry. "The ground is so *stark*, the seeds will not come up." When this term is applied to the harshness of skin occasioned by exposure to keen wind, it is equivalent to HAZZLED. "My hands and face are quite *starky*."

STARNEL. The starling. *Sturnus vulgaris*. (Linn.)
See SHEEP-RACK.

G.&P. E.L.

STAR-STONES. Pentacrinal vertebræ.

STARTUPS. Short gaiters: long ones being styled leggings. In a note to Fletcher's Faithful Shepherdess, the editor observes that Bp. Percy explains *startups* to signify "buskins worn by rustics, laced down before." And a note appended to the word in Bp. Hall's Satires describes them as "a kind of rustic shoe." Nares calls them "a kind of rustic shoes, with high tops, or half gaiters." Toone defines them, "a kind of half-boot, laced in front," and remarks that "in the midland counties spatterdashes are still called *startups*." There is little doubt that anciently they had no more reference to the shoes than at the present time, but were worn on them as a protection from dew and rain.

Draw close into the covert, lest the wet,
Which falls like lazy mist upon the ground,
Soke through your *startups*.

FLETCHER'S Faithful Shepherdess.

He borrowed on the working daies
His holy russets oft,
And of the bacon's fat, to make
His *startops* black and soft.

PERCY Reliques, vol. ii. 245, ed. 1794.

When not a shepherd any thing that could,
But greazed his *startops* black as autumn's sloe.

DRAYTON'S Ecl. ix. p. 1429.

And in high *startups* walk'd the pastured plains
To tend her tasked herd that there remains.

Bp. HALL'S Satires, p. 160.

E.L. H.A.D.

STATTEE or STATTIS. Corruptions of *statute* or *statute sessions*, which were first established by Act of Parliament in Edw. III. 1351, and were held in every hundred of every shire in England, and attended by sheriffs, magistrates, &c. for the purpose of regulating servants' wages, and fixing such of them in service as refused to seek, or were unable to obtain masters. The

statute for the Hundred of Spelho, in which Northampton is situate, was formerly held at Kingsthorp, but is now removed to Weston Favell. The interference of magistrates has ceased long ago, and it is now merely an annual assemblage held at particular villages and places before Michaelmas, for the purpose of hiring husbandry and household servants. If held after Michaelmas, they are termed *mops*, which see. The emblems of service are placed in the hats of the men servants: the plough-boy or carter has a piece of whip-cord; the shepherd a lock of wool; and the milk-boy a tuft of cow-hair. Both young men and maidens appear in their best attire, for these meetings are looked forward to with much interest, as furnishing an occasion for a holiday. Clare, to whom I have been so often indebted, shall again aid me with his graphic pen in describing what goes forward at these festive scenes.

He knew the manners, too, of merry ront;
Statute and feast his village yearly knew;
 And glorious revels, too, without a doubt,
 Such pastimes were to Hob, and Nell, and Sue,
 Milk-maids and clowns that *statute* joys pursue.

* * * *

Where cakes, and nuts, and gingerbread, and all,
 Tempt clowns to buy; and, far more tempting still,
 Where shining ribbons dizen out the stall.

* * * *

And there the ballad-singers rave and rant,
 And Hodge, whose pockets won't stand treats more high,
 Hears which his simpering lass may please to want,
 And, brushing through the crowd most manfully,
 Outs with his pence the pleasing song to buy,
 And crams it in her hand with many a smile.
 The trifling present makes the maid comply
 To promise him her company the while,
 And, strutting on at night, he hands her o'er the stile.

Village Minstrel, vol. i. pp. 33—4.

STAUD. Another form of STALLED. Cloyed, satiated, fatigued.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

STAUMS. Stalks. "The bean *staums* run in my hand." Probably a broad dialectical pronunciation of stems.

STAUNCH. A lock in a river. A singular but appropriate conversion of the verb to *staunch* into a noun, as it stops or keeps up the water for the navigation of boats and barges. The term *staunch* is, I believe, confined to the neighbourhood of Peterborough, and it often is coupled with the name of the parish in which it is situated: as, Orton-*staunch*, Woodstone-*staunch*, and Stanground-*staunch*, which last divides the counties of Northampton and Huntingdon.

2. A name given to selenite, or crystallised gypsum, from the popular belief that it possesses the property, when pulverised, of *staunching* the bleeding of wounds. A lane in Kettering has obtained the name of *Staunch-lane* from selenite being found in the clay there.

STAVE. (Rhyming to halve.) A step or round of a ladder. "A ladder of fifteen or twenty *staves*."

F.E.A. H.A.D.

STEAD. A place; a farm-house and offices. "*Home-stead*." A.-Sax. *stede*.

C.C. H.A.D.

STEADED. Supplied. "I am at last *steaded* with a servant."

Rich garments, linens, stuffs, and necessities,
Which since have *steaded* much.

Tempest, i. 2.

STEADY. }
STIDDY. } An anvil. Chaucer uses *stith* in the
STITHY. } Knight's Tale.

R.N.C. H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

STEEP. To top up or make up a rick. "*Steep* it up."

A.-Sax. *steap*.

STEER. A bullock, after it is one year old, till it enters its fourth year, when it is termed an ox. A.-Sax. *steor*. The age at which a *steer* is so denominated varies in different districts. In Shropshire, according to Harts-horne, "A bullock, till he reaches the age of two years, is a *steer*." Holloway, under "*Steerish*," remarks that "an ox in Gloucestershire, until he is four years old, is called a *steer*." Brockett defines a *steer*, "a three-year-old ox." Halliwell, "an ox in its third year."

2. Steep, approaching to perpendicular: often applied to the roof of a house. "That roof stands very *steer*."

E.L. H.A.D.

STELCH. As much as a man can thatch without moving his ladder. The first *stelch* in a roof is called a gable *stelch*.

STELL. A stand or stall for beer barrels. Jamieson gives "*Stell*, a prop, a support."

STELMS or STEMBSLES. The shoots from underwood and old trees, after they have been cut down; all that grow round the old stock. "The best nuts grow on the *stelms*."

STETCH. As much land as lies between two furrows.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

STEW. A state of vexation and perplexity. "She was in a fine *stew*."

B.N.C. C.C.

2. To fret. "She was *stewing* all day over it."

3. Dust, pother. "What a *stew* you're making!"

C.C. F.E.A. H.A.D.

4. A disturbance.

STEWED. Oppressed with heat. "The room was so crowded, I was quite *stewed*."

STICK-AND-HALF. A labourer's or thresher's term for a flail.

STICK. "To cut your *stick*:" *i. e.* to take offence; and, when used by servants or workmen, implies relinquishing their employment, or quitting their situation: probably referable to the ancient nick-sticks or tallies.

STICK-COVERT. A plat of ground stuck with thorns to make a fox-cover.

STICKERS. Villagers who go about collecting dry fire-wood.

The arbour he once wattled up is broke,
And left unworthy of his future care;
The ragged, plundering *stickers* have been there,
And pilfered it away.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 24.

In the wood's deep shade did stand,
As I pass'd the *sticking* troop;
And Goody begg'd a helping hand
To heave her rotten faggot up.

Ibid. vol. i. p. 128.

STICKING. Evergreens for decorating churches and houses. *See* CHRISTMAS.

STICKLER. One who remains long in a place; an unwelcome visitor. "I couldn't get rid of him; he's quite a *stickler*."

STIFF. Heavy, wearisome. "It was a *stiff* job of work." The same word is applied to any article that bears a high price. "It fetched a *stiff* price."

STINCHER or STINGER. (Rhyming to Ginger.) A tool, described under its synonyme BATTLEDORE. Used by thatchers when repairing a roof, but not in hull (whole) work, or when a whole building is newly thatched. GILLET is another name in the western side of the county. In Scotland, as given by Jamieson, it is termed a *Sting*, "to *sting*, to thatch:" and, "*Stinger*, a mender of thatched roofs."

STINGE. To repair thatched buildings by driving up the old thatch, and pushing in the new HALM by means of the *stinger*. "The thatch will bear *stinging*:" i. e. It does not want new thatching. "*Stinge* it in well."

STINGER. See BATTLEDORE.

STINGY. Thin, weak; applied to the hair of an animal. "That beeſt don't do well, it looks so *stingy*." The pens of a deer are the long *stingy* hairs. This word has probably some affinity to the word as given by Webster. "*Stingy* from straitness; W. *ystang*, something strait."

STIRK. A female calf at a year old is called a *stirk*, sometimes a *stirk-heifer*, which name it retains till it enters the fourth year, or till it has a calf, when it is termed a cow. A.-Sax. *stiorc*, a cow between one and two years old. Lexicographers use this word as well as *steer* indifferently for bullock or heifer. With us, *steer* always refers to the male, *stirk* to the female.

B.N.C. H.H. C.C. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

STIRRING. The second ploughing of bare fallow. See FOLLOWING.

STIR-UP SUNDAY. The twenty-fifth or last Sunday after Trinity; on which day the Collect in the Book of Common Prayer commences with the words, "*Stir up*," from which this name has arisen.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

STIRRUP-OIL. One of the old jokes practised on the 1st of April is the sending a raw lad to a saddler's or cobbler's for a "penn'orth of *stirrup-oil*," when he is termed an April fool, and his ignorance enlightened by the application of a *stirrup*-leather across his shoulders. Sending for strap-oil, pigeon's milk, and the history of Adam's grandfather, are all similar pieces of waggery practised on that day.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

STIRRUP-CUP. A parting glass drunk on horseback when taking leave.

"Boy! lead our horses out: when we get up,
Wee'l have with you a merry *stirrup-cupp*."

Praise of Yorkshire Ale (1697), p. 27.

C.C. H.A.D.

STITCHES. Balks, or portions of grass land in arable fields. Synonymous with REINS: both words are nearly obsolete, and very local. I have not met with our sense of the word elsewhere. Bp. Kennett's Glossary, p. 129, explains "*Selio*, a ridge of ploughed land, or as much as lies between two furrows. In old English, a *selion* of land, and a *stitch* of land." STELCH, STETCH, and *stitch* have all probably the same origin.

H.A.D.

2. "The *stitches* stand here and there like honest men:" a familiar illustrative remark addressed to children learning to sew, when the *stitches* are irregular and too far asunder.

STIVE. Dust. Identical with STEW.

G.&P. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To raise dust. "Sweep gently, or you'll *stive* us:" *i. e.* stifle or smother us with dust.

F.E.A. H.P.

STIVED. Oppressed with heat; pent up in a close, hot place. "We're quite *stived* up." Jennings and Harts-horne give this sense verbally.

G.&P. H.A.D.

STOB. A stump or stake. Probably from the A.-Sax. *steb*, a bole or trunk of a tree.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P.

STOCK. The horizontal space at the side of a grate; whence the simile, "as black as the *stock*." Moor and Halliwell define it the *back* of the grate; Forby, the back or sides of a fire-place. We restrict it to the flat

plate on each side of the fire. *HOB* is strictly synonymous, though less frequent.

2. To root up, to grub; to *stock* up a wood. Marshall, in his *Rural Economy*, notices this amongst his Northamptonshire provincialisms.

H.A.D.

STOCK-AXE. An axe for grubbing up the roots of trees. Called *stocking-axe*.

L.H.

STOCKY. Bold, having a *stock* of impudence. "You *stocky* young rogue!" Common throughout the midland district.

E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

STODGE. A large quantity of any very thick liquid food; milk, crumbed so thick that the spoon would stand upright, would be called a good *stodge*, or, "What a *stodge* you have made of it!"

J.S. H.S.

STODGED. Filled to the stretch; crammed full. Used to solids as well as to thick liquids. If things were crushed very closely into a sack, it would be *stodged*. Sometimes it is applied personally: "If you eat all that, you will be *stodged* full."

C.C. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

STODGY. Thick, cloggy. "A *stodgy* mess." Used metaphorically to a short, thick-set person. "He's a *stodgy* little man."

M.S.

STOMACH. "To stick in the *stomach*:" to remain in the memory with angry resentment. "It does not sit easy on his *stomach*" is an analogous phrase.

C.C. F.E.A. H.A.D.

STONE-BATCH. A name given by Morton to very hard clay. I suspect it is now obsolete. See Morton, p. 95.

STONE-CHAT. The wheat-ear. *Motacilla Oenanthe*. (Linn.) This bird is also called CLODHOPPER and FALLOWSMITCH.

H.P.

STONE. "To throw the first *stone*:" to commence a dispute.

STONING. A mode of ploughing, in which the earth, having been previously turned, is turned back again. In Suffolk, *back-striking* is synonymous.

STOOL. A cluster of stems arising from the same root. "*Hazel-stools*."

In the woodbines and brambles,
Hazel *stools* and oak trees;
I enjoy such wood rambles
To hear the wood bees.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

2. "Between two *stools* he came to the ground." An archaical phrase, employed sometimes reprehensively when any one, in attempting two modes of accomplishing an object, fails in both.

I saie, O! foole of all fooles,
Thou farest as he betwene *two stoles*
That wolde sette, and goth to grounde.

GOWER, fo. lxvi. b.

STOOLING. The second germination of corn; the wheat is said to *stool* well, when numerous blades spring from the same root, spread, and multiply. So used in Scotland. Marshall, in his Rural Economy, gives "To *stool*, to ramify as corn, to stock, to tiller." TILLERING is synonymous with *stooling*.

H.A.D.

STOOP. A fall of water in a river; similar to a *lowshot* or *OVERSHOT*. I was not aware of the provinciality of *lowshot* till too late to insert it in the proper place. *Stoop*, I believe, is prevalent in the neighbourhood of

Peterborough, and is still preserved at Higham Ferrers:
 "Higham *stoops*."

STOOPER. A wedge for stooping or tilting a barrel.

STORE. Value, estimation, regard. "I set great *store* by it," or, "no *store* by it." Chaucer has "I told of it no *store*." And Palsgrave has, "I set no *store* by a thyng, or have it in no estimation." "I set no *store* by your synging."

And wenches drag poor sheepish Bob or Bill,
 Some long, long dallied promise to fulfil;
 New wreath or bow for Sunday cap to buy:
 "If yah set any *store* by one yah will."

CLARE's Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 34.

B.N.C. C.C. "Stoar." H.A.D.

2. The old preterite of *stare*. "The boys *store* in at the window."

STORM-COCK or STORM-THRUSH. The missel-thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*. (Linn.) See the synonymes FEN-THRUSH, GAW-THRUSH, HORSE-THRUSH, MARBLE-THRUSH.

C.C. H.S. H.A.D. All give "Storm-cock."

STORY. A softened term for a lie. It is very common for children to say to each other, when one is telling an untruth, "Oh! what a *story-teller* you are!"

C.C. F.E.A. T.G. H.A.D.

STOUND. To ache, to smart, to be in pain.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

STOUNDED. Stunned with a loud noise, or blow; or overcome with astonishment and fright.

F.E.A.

STOUR. Dust in motion; a cloud of dust. "How *stoury* it is!"

For I maun crush amang the *stoure*
 Thy slender stem.

BURNS, ii. 267.

B.N.C. "Stoor." T.G. H.A.D.

STOVEN. A stump, either growing or put into the ground as a post.

How sweet to be thus nestling deep in boughs,
Upon an ashen *stoven* pillowing me.

CLARE's Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 176.

He flies through the *stovens*,
Brown, hazel, and grey.

CLARE's MS. Poems.

C.C. E.L.

STOVER or STUVVER. Haulm, stubble; the second mowing or growth of clover. Ray, amongst his South and East Country Words, records *stover*, "fodder for cattel; as hay, straw, or the like." The origin of *stover* no doubt is the old French and legal term *estovers*, that is, materials for repairs of farm-buildings, gates, fences, &c. Moor appears to be the only Glossarist who agrees with us in referring it to the clover. Our haulm and stubble serve for either fodder or thatch.

The tufty mountains where live nibling sheep,
And flat meads thatch'd with *stover* them to keep.

Tempest, iv. 1.

And others from their cars* are busily about
To draw out sedge and reed, for thatch and *stover* fit.

DRAYTON's Polyolbion.

Thresh barley, as yet, but as need shall require,
Fresh threshed for *stover*, thy cattle desire.

TUSSER, Nov. Husbandry.

G. M.S. "Stuvva." F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

STOWK. A stake, a slanting piece of wood put to support a broken post, a stake to drive in the ground for fixing hurdles and sheep-pens.

STRAP. Credit, trust. "What *strap* will you give?"

C.C. H.A.D.

2. To groom a horse.

* Boggy, low woods.

STRAP or STRIP. To draw the last milk from a cow, by the pressure of the thumb and finger. "*Strap* her well before you leave her." *Strap* is current on the Leicestershire side of the county. *Strip*, I believe, is equally common in other parts of the county: it appears to be a Northern term, occurring in Jamieson.

C.C. F.E.A. L.H. E.L. H.A.D.

STRAPPER. A tall stout person. "She's a *strapper*."

SPANKER and WHAPPER are kindred epithets.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

STRAPPERS. Cows that are nearly dry, that yield little milk. When cows are nearly dry, a farmer will say, "I am badly off for milk now, I've only a few *strappers*."

STRAPPINGS.	}	The last milk drawn or drained from a cow in milking.
STRIPPINGS.		
STROAKINGS.		

F.E.A. H.S. H.P. and H.A.D. "*Strippings*." E.L. "*Strappings*." G.&P. P.D. H.A.D. "*Stroakings*."

STRAUM.	}	To stride, to walk with long steps. <i>Strime</i> is confined to the north-eastern side of the county. Forby, Holloway, and Halliwell insert <i>strome</i> .
STRIME.		
STROME.		

STREAK. To stretch. A.-Sax. *astreccan*. I am indebted to Clare for this word.

I'd just *streak'd* down, and with a swish,
Whang'd off my hat, soak'd like a fish.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 60.

The rabbits *streak* and slumber in the sun,
And wake from buzzes of the great blue fly.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P.

STRICKLE or STROCKLE. A smooth straight piece of wood, with which the surplus grain is stroked off to level it with the brim of the measure. A.-Sax. *streichan*, a rod, a wand.

H.S. "*Streckle*." H.P. H.A.D.

STRIKE. A circular wooden bushel measure for corn.

A wicker skip the same size, used for the sale of fruit or potatoes, is likewise termed a bushel; but there is this distinction between them, the corn above the rim of the measure is strickled off, hence, probably, the name; while the fruit in the bushel skip is always heaped up.

R.N.C. G. M.S. H.H. H.S. P.D. H.P.

STRIME. *See* STRAUM.

STRING'S END. "He's got to his *string's end*," meaning he's either got to the end of his purse or the end of his story.

STRIP. *See* STRAP.

STRIPPINGS. *See* STRAPPINGS.

STRIT. A street. An archaism.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

STROAKINGS. *See* STRAPPINGS.

STROKE. Quantity. "He does a great *stroke* of business."

M.S. B.N.C. H.S. H.A.D.

STROME. *See* STRAUM.

STROMMAKING. Applied to slatternly females, walking with long strides. "How she goes *strommaking* along."

STROOM. A wicker malt-strainer, used in brewing. Synonymous with BATWELL and THEAD.

STROUT. To protrude, to swell. Synonymous with strut. A Chaucerian word.

With crooked hooks the *strouting* clusters cut,
In frails and flaskets them as quickly put.

SILVESTER'S Du Bartas, p. 214.

J.S. H.P. H.A.D.

STRUCK. "*Struck* all of a heap," *i. e.* excessively surprised and astounded.

H.A.D.

STRUM. To play irregularly and unskilfully on a keyed instrument.

H.A.D.

STRUNTY. Sulky, offended. Common in Scotland.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

STRUT. A pole or stick, with a spike at the end, to be let down from the shaft of a cart, to keep the weight off the horse's back when standing still with a heavy load.

STRUTTLE. Another name for the little fish before given as BANDY and STANSTICKLE.

Chasing the *struttle* o'er the shallow tide,
And flat stones turning up where gudgeons hide.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 103.

Those stepping-stones, that cross the meadow streams,

* * * * *

And boy with laughing leisure in his face
Sits on the midmost stone, in very whim,
To catch the *struttles* that beneath him swim.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 161.

STRUUV. The preterite of strive. "I *struv* agen it as much as I could."

STUB. An old horse-shoe nail.

C.C. H.S. H.A.D.

2. A small old post or decayed stump of wood, that is left in the ground when a tree is cut down. A.-Sax. *stybbe*, truncus.

With knotty knarry barrein trees old
Of *stubbes* sharpe and hidious to behold.

CHAUCE'S Knightes Tale.

Ofte time doth he fall in daunger for to spill,
Sometime on *stubbes* his hoses sore he teares,
Or fals in the mud both over head and eares.

BARCLAY'S 4th Egloge.

And all about old stockes and *stubs* of trees,
Whereon nor fruit nor leafe was never seen.

Faërie Queene, bk. i. c. 9, p. 79.

M.S. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

3. Tò grub up.

In every green, if the fence be not thine,
Now *stub* up the bushes, the grass to be fine.

TUSSER, January Husbandry.

B.N.C. H.P. H.A.D.

STUBBED or **STUBBY**. Blunt-pointed, as the broad nib of a pen, thick, short: often applied to trees stunted in their growth. Richardson's Dictionary supplies the following illustration:—

And like a *stubbed* thorne, which may seeme to serve
To stad with such sweate smelling floures, like praises to deserve.

GASCOINE, Councelle to Duglasse Dive.

W.C. H.A.D.

STUBBEDISH. Thickset, stout made. "*Stubbedish* chaps, fit for hard work."

STUBBLE. "Peeking *stubble*." The term in the northern part of the county for gathering *stubble* after harvest. Synonymous with bagging **HAULM**, which see.

STUBBS. *Stubble*. Halliwell is the only one who notices this word; he gives it as Northamptonshire.

Leaving his pleasant seat, he sighs and rubs
His legs, and shews scratched wounds from piercing *stubs*.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 70.

But ill it suits thee in the *stubs* to glean.

CLARE's Rural Life, p. 95.

STUD AND TEER. A rustic mode of building a wall with interwoven sticks instead of lath, plastered or **TEER**'d with dirt instead of mortar. A common mode of dividing rooms in cottages.

STUDGING. Walking with short heavy steps; always used with the adjunct along. "He goes *studging* along." Often applied to old agricultural labourers.

STUDGY. Short, thickset. "He's a *studgy* little chap." Nearly identical with **STUBBEDISH**.

STUDSTAFF. A cross piece of wood, to prevent the traces of the fore horses of a team from collapsing.

STULP. The stump of a tree. Moor, Forby, Holloway,

and Halliwell consider it "a short stout post put down to mark a boundary." Nares was unacquainted with the word, but cites it from Stow's London, and conjectures it to be "Posts, stumps, or something of that kind."

Or 'neath the hazel's leafy thatch,
On a *stulp* or mossy ground,
Little squirrels' gambols watch,
Dancing oak trees round and round.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 129.

The woodman's Robin startles coy,
Nor longer to his elbow comes,
To peck with hunger's eager joy,
'Mong mossy *stulps* the litter'd crumbs.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 24.

The Robin is on the ground
Close to a mossy *stulp*.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

STUMP. See HANG THE STUMP.

2. Cognate with CORE, which see.

STUMPS. Legs. "Come, stir your *stumps*," is a common phrase to incite any one to move about expeditiously. Halliwell gives several early authorities for this vulgarism, to which may be added the following.

Come on, clownes, forsake your dumps,
And bestirre your hob-nailed *stumps*.

BEN JONSON, Entertainment at Althorpe, 1603.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

STUMPT. Reduced to poverty. When a boy is playing at marbles and loses all his stock, he will say "I am quite *stumpt*."

C.C.

2. Concealed behind some old *stump* of a tree, or block of wood. When boys are SCOUTING birds they often say if one escapes their view "Its got *stumpt* somewhere."

STY AN EYE. Sometimes spelt STIONY. A small, troublesome, inflamed pimple, or as we locally call it

QUAT, at the edge of the eye-lid; the charm for relieving which is, rubbing the part affected nine times with a wedding ring, or any other piece of gold. This superstition appears to be of some antiquity, as the word occurs in the Anglo-Latin Lexicon 1440, "*Styanye yn the eye.*"

I have a *sty* here, Chilax,
I have no gold to cure it, not a penny,
Not one cross, cavalier.

BEAUM. & FL. Mad Lover, v.

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SUCH. A country expletive. "If you don't give me my price like, I won't stay here haggling all day *and such.*"

E.L. H.A.D.

SUCK-BOTTLES. }
SUCKERS. } *See HONEY-SUCKS.*

SUCK-IN. To take in earnest what is intended ironically or hyperbolically. "He *sucked it all in.*" Probably a metaphor from a sponge.

SUEING or SUGHING. Sometimes pronounced *suffing*, but more commonly *sooing*. A rushing, murmuring, melancholy sound, as the whistling wind among trees. Chaucer uses *swough* in the same sense, rhyming to *bough*. Clare supplies numerous exemplifications.

And each rude risen tempest, beetling loud,
Own'd every murmur his wild ear to please,
Sughing its vengeance through the yellow trees,
Pattering its acorns from their cups adown.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 29.

The dark wind o' autumn so dreary
Sughs through the black firdales so lonely.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

The frolicsome wind through the trees and the bushes
Keeps *sueing* and sobbing and roaring all day.

Ibid.

The chaffinch flies from out the bushes,
 The blue-cap "te hees" on the brier,
 The wind *sues* on in merry gushes
 His murm'ring autumn's minstrelsy.

Ibid. "The Autumn Wind."

SUGGY. *See* SOGGY.

SUIT. "*Suit* you down to the ground." Said of a servant that exactly *suits* in every respect.

SUITER or SUITEL. The flat board laid over a newly made cheese whilst in the press. *Bred* is the correspondent term in Suffolk.

SUKEY. A common name for a tea-kettle. "*Sukey sings*" just before the water boils.

SULK. To be sullenly silent.

Our admiral, the tide and winds say nay,
 He'll row and work and *sulk* it all the day.

Earl Argyle (Jam. Supp.)

C.C. H.A.D.

SUMDELL. Some-deal. Somewhat; in some degree.

A.-Sax. *sum-dæle*. Very common in our earliest poets.

But she was *sumdele* deaf, and that was skaith.

CHAUCER, Prol. W. Bathe. T.

But now thou hast *somdele* appeased
 Thy god, and with good dede pleased.

GOWER's Poems, fol. xlii.

SUMMAT. A vulgar contraction for *somewhat* and *something*. "I could tell you *summat*, if I liked."

M.S. B.N.C. W.C.app. C.C.

SUMMER. "To *summer* cattle" is to JOIST or place them out during the *summer* on another person's land.

C.C. H.A.D.

SUMMERS. One of the numerous correlatives (*see* CRATCH, COPSES, &c.) for the moveable frame projecting over the shafts of a waggon or cart; probably so named from being used in the *summer* season to extend the

capacity of the waggon, &c. in hay and harvest time.
 "A narrow-wheeled cart with *summers*" occurs amongst the advertisements in the Northampton Mercury: and Palsgrave stamps the antiquity of the term by giving "*Somers*, or rathes of a wayne or cart."

SUMMING. Arithmetic. "Let the child larn *summing*."

J.S. F.E.A. P.D. A.W. H.A.D.

SUN. "He's been i' th' *sun*, or sunshine" is a phrase signifying that a person is elevated with liquor, but not intoxicated, as the Craven Glossarist and Halliwell describe it.

SUNDAY. "He was born in the middle of the week, and looked both ways for *Sundays*." A burlesque expression for a person who squints. "When two *Sundays* meet," or, "When we have a month o' *Sundays*," are phrases expressive of impossibilities.

C.C.

SUN-FLOWER. Corn marigold. *Chrysanthemum segetum*.

SUNK FENCE. A ditch cut perpendicularly on one side, and obliquely on the other. Not local, and ought to be in the dictionaries.

H.A.D.

SUP. "*Sup*, Simon! its excellent broth." A common ironical recommendation to any one taking medicine or anything nauseous or disagreeable.

2. "*Sup* sorrow." To taste affliction. A strong figurative expression.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SURE AS A GUN. A common colloquial simile for any thing that is absolutely certain.

There's luck, says auld Lizzy, in facin' the sun;

Thou's young, lish, and clever—may wed a feyne leady,
 And come home a nabob—aye, as *sure as a gun*.

Westm. and Cumb. Dialect, p. 256.

B.N.C.

SUSH-WAYS. Cross-cornered or diagonally; a field so ploughed is said to be ploughed *sush-ways*. I am not acquainted with any other application of the term.

SUSS! SUSS! An invitation to pigs to come to their food. Tig! Tig! is much more common, but *suss* perhaps more appropriate, as Halliwell gives it as "a call to swine to eat their *suss* or hog's-wash."

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SUTHER. To sigh heavily, as the wind among trees; very nearly allied to **SUE** or **SUGH**. Clare often uses it, and is all my authority for the word. I am informed it is sometimes used personally for a deep sigh.

There's nothing suits my musing mind
So pleasant as the autumn wind;
How many miles it *suthers* on,
And stays to dally with the leaves.

CLARE'S MS. Poems, "The Autumn Wind."

The wind *suthers* softly
Among the green bushes.

Ibid.

SUTHERING. Heavy sighing or whistling of the wind.

No noise is heard save *suthering* through the trees
Of brisk wind-gushes or a trembling breeze.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 105.

SWACK. To throw. "He *swack'd* the wood in his face." Jamieson has "*Swak*, to throw, to cast with force;" which is just our meaning.

M.S. F.E.A. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SWACKING. Anything unusually large.

M.S. F.E.A. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

SWAD. The pod of a pea or bean. Jamieson gives *Swab*.

R.N.C. R.E.S.C. G. B.N.C. C.C. H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SWADE. Old pasture. An old open-field term.

SWAG. See **SAGG**.

SWAGE. To work iron in a groove, or into any particular form. The anvil employed for this purpose is called a *swage*-anvil, and is chiefly used for agricultural implements. "*Swage*-anvils" occur in the sale of wheelwrights' effects in our provincial papers.

SWAGGERGOG. A DOD or bog.

SWALE. Shade; a shady place. Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440. "*Swale*, umbra."

Granny there was on the bench,
Coolly sitting in the *swail*.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 139.

Sweet type of innocence! * snow-clothed blossom!

Seemly, though vainly, bowing down to shun
The storm hard beating on thy swan-white bosom
Left in the *swail*, and little cheer'd by sun.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 155.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A gentle rising of the ground: an old form of *swell*.
A.-Sax. *swallan*, swollen.

M.S.

SWALE. } To melt away wastefully, to run down as a
SWAIL. } candle exposed to a current of air *sweals*
SWEAL. } away. A.-Sax. *swaelan*. Wiclif has *swaleden*, which in the Glossary is interpreted *swealed*,
singed.

Yei *swaleden* or brenten for heete and for ye hadden not roote yei
dryeden up.

WICLIF MS. Matt. iii.

Dinna let the candle *sweal* as ye gang along.

Old Mortality.

R.N.C. G. B.N.C. W.C. C.C. F.E.A. E.L. H.P.

H.A.D.

SWALIEST. Coolest; shadiest.

* The snowdrop.

Shepherds, with their panting sheep,
In the *swaliest* corner creep;
And from the tormenting heat
All are wishing to retreat.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 70.

H.A.D.

SWAMBLE. To faint away.

SWANK. An ostentatious air, an affectation of stateliness in the walk. "What a *swank* he cuts!"

A.W. E.L.

SWANKING. Strutting consequentially. "How he goes *swanking* along!" "What a *swanking* fellow he is!" Akerman gives "*Swanky*, swaggering, strutting."

SWAP. To barter, to exchange. Hunter observes, "This word occurs not unfrequently in the writers of Elizabeth's reign."

When I drove a thrust home, he put it by,
And cried, as in derision, "Spare the stripling!"
Oh, that insulting word! I would have *swopp'd*
Youth for old age, and all my life behind,
To have been then a momentary man.

DRYDEN'S Cleom. act iv.

G.&P. M.S. B.N.C. H.H. C.S. A.W. H.S. T.G.

H.P. H.A.D.

2. A barter, an exchange. It is very common in the market to hear one butcher say to another, "Come, let you and I have a *swap*:" *i. e.* exchange one joint of meat for another. Equivalent to a RAP.

3. A fall. "He came down full *swap*." A.-Sax. *swapan*.

Alle sodainly she *swapte* down to the ground.

CHAUCER'S Clerkes Tale, p. 105.

H.A.D.

SWAPE. The handle of a pump. May not this be a broad vulgarism for the motion or *sweep* of the handle, which name it sometimes bears?"

G.&P. C.C. H.A.D.

VOL. II.

P

SWAPPING. Exchanging.

SWARD or SWORD. The rind or skin of singed bacon.

A.-Sax. *sweard*, cutis porcina. *Sward* is current in Warwickshire and Leicestershire. For an exemplification of this term, see a passage already quoted from Bishop Hall's *Satyres*, under REESTY.

H.S. "Swerd." E.L. H.A.D.

SWASH. Correspondent with *dash*. "What a *swash* he cuts!" *i. e.* How inconsistently and gaily he's dressed!

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SWATH. A range or row of cut grass or corn, as it falls from the scythe of the mower. A.-Sax. *swath*. See Bp. Kennett's Glossary, v. *Swatha*. Often used metaphorically to any one who is grumbling and dissatisfied. "You're always in the wrong *swath*:" or, to any one who has not succeeded in an undertaking, "You've got in the wrong *swath*:" *i. e.* You have gone the wrong way to work to accomplish your object. In Leicestershire they have a phrase of similar import. "He's always in the *lowest swath*."

But ample *swathes* of grasse on ground doe cast,
And shew what way sharp sithes have past.

SYLVESTER'S *Du Bartas*, p. 378 (1633).

Some o'er the rustling scythe go bending on;
And shockers follow where their toils have gone,
Heaping the *swaths* that rustle in the sun.

CLARE'S *Shep. Cal.* p. 71.

A.W. H.S. H.A.D.

SWARTH. The indurated grease that exudes from the axle of a wheel. Cognate with COOMB.

SWAULING. Large, loose. "Your gown is so *swauling* it looks quite a fright." Another form of swelling. Current in Scotland. Jamieson has "To *swaul*, to increase in bulk; to swell;" which accords with our usage.

SWAUM. To climb the boll of a tree by the muscular action of the arms and legs. Halliwell cites the following illustration:—

He *swarmed* up into a tree,
Whyle eyther of them might other see.

Syr Isenbras, 351.

G. M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. C.C. H.H. H.S. E.L. H.P.
H.A.D.

SWAVE or SWAUVE. To faint, to swoon. *Swarf*, according to Halliwell, is of similar import in the North.

SWAY-BOAT. A large swinging boat for children to ride in at a fair.

SWAY-GAY. Another name for a swing.

SWAY-POLE. A long, moveable beam, swinging obliquely, but not equipoised, on its centre up and down a well for raising water.

M.S.

SWAY-TREE. *See* BATTICLES.

SWEAR. To spit and hiss like a cat when angry.

The puppy dogs snarl, and the pussy cats *swear*,
Not knowing the wrong from the right.

Rural Scenes. (Craven Dialect.)

C.C. H.A.D.

SWEATER. "I'll give it a *sweater*," is often said when a person begins a thing in good earnest, with a determined resolution to accomplish it.

SWEEP. The handle of a pump. *See* SWAPE.

SWEETING. A small, early, sweet apple. Halliwell says, mentioned by Ascham and others. Palsgrave gives it "*Swetyng*, an apple: *pomme douce*."

H.A.D.

SWEET-BONES. A griskin of pork, which see.

SWEET-PIE. *See* LIGHT-PIE.

SWEET TOOTH. A person who is fond of sweet things is said to have a *sweet tooth*. If this predilection ap-

plies to an elderly person, it is commonly said "What a *sweet tooth* he's got; he's once a man and twice a child."

C.C. H.A.D.

2. The uncut tooth at the extremity of the jaw of a calf; the eye-tooth as it is called.

SWEETNER. A person engaged on behalf of the seller to bid at a public sale or auction, without intending to purchase, for the purpose of clandestinely or surreptitiously running up the price of the articles.

C.C. H.A.D.

SWEEVEL-EYED. Cross-eyed; having a particular cast with the eyes. Brockett gives "*swearl* or *sweevil-eyed*."

SWELKING. Sultry, hot. "It is a *swelking* hot day." Forby, under *swelking*, says "*Swelt* is the word in the dictionary, and ours is not noticed. We will, however, not allow it to be a corruption or variation of *swelt*, while we can deduce it decidedly from A.-Sax. *swilie*, *calidus*."

SWELTERED. Overcome with heat and perspiration, as one walking in a broiling sun. "It's so deadly hot, our Sally's welly *sweltered* to death with the long walk." A.-Sax. *sweltan*, to perish by heat. Chaucer has "*swelt* for lack of shade" in the "Flower and Leaf."

Where the rose reviving blows,
Upon the *swelter'd* bower.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 188.

G. L.H. H.A.D.

SWELTERING. Suffering greatly from oppressive heat. "He goes *sweltering* along." "It's a *sweltering* hot day," *i. e.* a sultry day.

Sweltering they run
To grots and caves, and cooling umbrage seek
Of woven arborets

PHILLIPS'S Cider, b. i.

T.G.

SWIG. Toast and ale.

C.C. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

- 2. A long draught. It is very common for labourers in the fields in hot weather to say "I'm so thirsty I must have a *swig*."

He first took a good *swig* at the bottle.

RANDOLPH'S Islands of the Archipelago, (1687) p. 28.

M.S. C.C. H.S.

SWIG AND PULL. A good draught. An intensitive of the preceding word.

SWILL. To rinse, to cleanse by rinsing. Not "to wash or drench," as explained by Todd and others. A.-Sax. *swilian*. "*Swill* the settlings out of that basin," i. e. just rinse it out. "*Swill* the tub round before you fill it." Palsgrave has "I *swyll*, I rynce or clense any maner vessell."

H.S. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

2. The liquid in which vessels are *swilled* or cleansed; hog-wash.

Who takes the *swill* to serve the hogs,
And steals the milk for cats and dogs?

My Mary.

CLARE'S Rural Life, (1820) p. 160.

M.S. H.H. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

SWILL-TUB. A tub into which the kitchen-maid or dairy-maid deposits the swill. Another name for what is more commonly called the hog-tub or bucket.

M.S. C.C. H.P.

SWIMMER. A wooden trencher, or two short pieces of flat wood nailed across floating upon a bucket of water to prevent its washing over as it is carried along.

SWING. Scope, room "He'll have full *swing* now." Metaphorically from the verb to swing.

H.A.D.

SWINGING. Hasty, quick. "He went at a *swinging* pace." In contradistinction to a jog-trot.

SWINGE. To singe. "Shall you *swinge* or scald your pig?"

The scorching flame sore *swinged* all his face,
And through his armour all his body seared.

SPENSER'S *Faërie Queen*, b. i. c. 11.

G. C.C. H.S. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

SWINGE. To chastise, to flog, to beat soundly. A.-Sax. *swingan*.

Go, fetch them hither, if they deny to come,
Swinge me them soundly forth unto their husbands.

Taming of the Shrew, v. 1.

Was never slave so *swinged* since hell was hell,
As I will *swinge* thy slave's soul, and be sure on't.

BEAU. & FL. *Mad Love*, iii.

And that baggage Beatrix, how I would *swinge* her
If I had her here.

DRYDEN'S *Evening's Love*, v.

G.&P. B.N.C. H.H. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

2. To cut the nettles, &c. from hedges to make them neat.

H.A.D.

SWINGER. A lie, a great falsehood. Richardson gives the following illustration from Echard:—

How will he rap out presently half a dozen *swingers* to get off cleverly!

SWINGEING. A beating. "They gave him a good *swingeing*."

H.S.

SWINGEL. The first joint of a flail; that part which *swings* and beats the corn out of the ear. A.-Sax. *swingl*, *swingelan*, verberare. For the various other synonymes of this agricultural implement, see SWIBBLE.

While distant thresher's *swingle* drops
With sharp and hollow-twanking raps.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 90.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

SWINGEL-TREE. *See* BATTICLES.

B.N.C. G.&P. H.P.

2. A piece of timber hung as a partition in a stall.

SWINNYING. Giddiness, faintness; analogous to swimming. "A *swinnying* in the head." "How my head *swinnies*."

H.S. H.A.D.

SWIPE. To drink to the very bottom.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SWIPES. Weak small beer.

G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

SWIRL. To whirl with the wind. The only notice I find of this word is in Jamieson, who gives it in a correspondent sense, "A whirling motion of any kind, as that caused by the operation of the wind."

The hurly burly wind,
How it whirls the wheat about;
The billows swab behind,
And the head-aches *swirl* without.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

SWIRTLE. To move about tortuously like an eel, to dodge about in order to escape being caught. When a number of boys are playing together as at "One catch all," they will often say, "You can't catch him, he *swirtles* about so."

B.N.C. H.A.D.

SWISH. A sudden and quick movement. If a person's hat is wet from a hasty shower, it would be said, "Give it a good *swish* and shake the wet off." To move along with quickness is to *swish* along. And an animal *swishes*

his tail, when he swings and flaps it about to drive away the flies. For illustrations to this word see STREAKS.

H.P. H.A.D.

SWITCHER. A master who does not shew any favours to his workmen beyond the simple payment of wages.

SWITHER. A swoon or fainting-fit.

I thought I was going to drop dead in a *swither*.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

SWIVELLED. Withered, shrivelled. Allied to SNIVELLED.

SWIVER. To quiver, to flutter.

Where white cawdymaudies slow *swiver* and sail.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

SWOB. To sway and vibrate with the wind, to wave.

For an exemplification, see the illustration under SWIRL.

SWOPPING. Pouncing, as a bird upon its prey.

And other losses to the dames recite

Of chick, and duck, and gosling gone astray;

All falling prizes to the *swopping* kite.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 18.

SWORN BROTHERS. Intimate friends; a modified application of the ancient term *Fratres Jurati*, *Sworn Brothers*, who by mutual oath covenanted to share each other's fortune.

Now is this Vice's dagger become a squire, and talks as familiarly of John of Gaunt as if he had been *sworn brother* to him.

2 Hen. IV. iv. 1.

H.H. H.A.D.

SWOUND. A swoon, or fainting-fit. Used verbally and participially.

When that she *swounded* next, for lak of blode.

CHAUCER'S Squier's Tale.

My agony was sae extreme

I swelt and *swound* for feir.

MONTGOMERIE, The Cherrie and Slae. (1597.)

All in gore blood I *swounded* at the sight.

Romeo and Juliet, iii. 2.

F.E.A. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

T.

T. "Suits to a T." Said of persons and things which suit in every respect the purpose for which they are required, probably to the nicety of a carpenter's T square. "Done to a T," said of meat that is cooked or done to a nicety, to perfection; as "roasted to a T, or a turn."

C.C. H.A.B.

TAB. The latchet of a shoe fastened with a string or thong.

R.N.C. G. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TABBERING Striking or tapping anything quickly. "How that boy is *tabbering* the table." Pynson has *tabowryn*, *timpaniso*. This word is found in the Old Testament:—

Her maids shall lead her as with the voice of doves *tabering* upon their breasts.

Nahum, ch. ii. v. 7.

TABLE-HEDGE. The prepared ground for planting the quick. A double hedge has two tables.

TABLES. "The *tables* are turned," *i. e.* the circumstances are changed.

TACHING-ENDS. } Shoemaker's waxed hempen
TATCHER'S-ENDS. } thread with a bristle affixed to
each end for joining or *attaching* the leather.

G.&F. W.C. H.H. C.C. H.S. E.L. H.A.D.

TACKED. The abbreviation of attacked. "The potatoes are *tacked* again." "The cankers have *tacked* the gooseberries and currants." Particularly applied to the early stage of consumption, "He's *tacked*."

TACKLE. A horse's harness; more particularly the gear of husbandry horses. The term is colloquially extended to implements of trade; when any one is going to repair an article, it is commonly asked, "Have you got your *tackle* ready?"

P.D. A.W. H.A.D.

2. To harness horses. "*Tackle* 'em out."

P.D.

TADDLE-COCKS. The small cocks into which hay is put, before the haymakers finish their daily labour to protect it from dew or rain.

TA'EN. Taken; almost invariably used by Shakspeare. Todd says, "the poetical contraction of taken;" but with us it is in every-day use amongst the vulgar and illiterate. "The child was *ta'en* ill, so I *ta'en* it home."

He was robb'd and *ta'en* away.

King John, v. 1.

Oft spying nests where he spring's eggs had *ta'en*,
And wishing in his heart 'twas summer time again.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 91.

Had the grasshopper *ta'en* the advice of the ant.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 93.

C.C. E.L.

TA'EN OUT. Copied.

Take me this work out.

* * * *
* * * *

I like the work well; ere it be demanded
(As like enough it will) I'd have it copied.

Othello, iii. 4.

Nichophanes gave his mind wholly to antique pictures, partly to exemplify and *take out* their patterns.

HOLLAND'S Pliny. (Nares.)

TAFFLING. Idling, loitering, trifling. Applied to servants who are faddling and wasting their time. "My servant goes *taffling* about and don't get on with her work."

TAG. The low rabble; often joined with **RAG**, as, "There were plenty of *tag-rag* at the fair;" and when *Bobtail* is of the party, the trio constitutes a multitude of contemptuous raggamuffins. "*Tag-rag-and-bobtail*."

Will you hence
Before the *tag* return, whose rage doth rend
Like interrupted waters?

Coriol. iii. 1.

The *tag-rag* people did not clap him and hiss him.

Jul. Cæs. i. 2.

He invited *tag-rag and bob-tail* to the wedding.

L'ESTRANGE. (Todd.)

F.E.A. H.A.D.

2. To follow closely. "The children are always *tagging* after her."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

3. One who acts second, as the man who pulls the cord for a sawyer when he is sawing.

TAGGED or TAGGLED. Saturated with mud, as the petticoats of females.

TAGLOCKS. See **DAGLOCKS**.

H.A.D.

TAILOR'S-YARD-BAND. A name given to the three stars in the belt of Orion. See **BUTCHER'S CLEAVER**.

The Tailor's Yard-band, which hangs streaming high.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. iii.

TAIL-BOARD. The board that drops in at the back of a cart. See **HECK-BOARD**.

TAIL-CORN. } The inferior portion of wheat or other
 TAIL-ENDS. } grain; that which will not dress clean,
 TAILINGS. } and being unfit for market is kept for
 TAIL-WHEAT. } home consumption. Evans gives *Tail-*
ends, and observes, "The word originally came from the
 use of the old winnowing fan, or bag-fan, so called here
 of old." I believe it depends more on the REEING than
 the winnowing. Tailing is in most general use. Tail
 occurs in this sense, I imagine, in Whitaker's ed (1813)
 of Piers Plowman's Vision:—

* * * And bereth away my wete,
 And taketh me bote in *tail*.

If the learned doctor had been acquainted with our
 local signification of *tail*, I think he would not in his
 explanatory note have converted the *tailings* or "*taile*"
 into a *sheep's tail*.

He keeps a company of men to kill my sheep, and forestalls my
 fairs, and brawls in my markets, and once he broke my barn door,
 and carried away my wheat, and for ten or twelve quarters of it re-
 paid me but a *sheep's tail*.

G. L.H. A.W. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

TAKE. A renting, a holding. "It's a good *take*:" i. e. a
 money-getting farm.

TAKE-AWAY. A good appetite. "Our servant has got
 a famous *tack-away*."

c.c. "Take-away." H.A.D.

TAKE DOWN. To copy, to write down what any one
 is saying.

TAKE ON. To lament, to grieve immoderately, to fret
 at a disappointment or misfortune. Palsgrave. "I *take*
on as one dothe that lamenteth or sorroweth."

You shall see a child *take on* more sadly for the scape of a sparrow,
 or the breaking of a rattle, than some will do for an estate.

ROBERT BOYLE. (Craven Dialect.)

Ant. Whither is she gone, then ?

1 *Servt.* Into the country

With the gentleman your friend, Sir,
To see if she can wear her sorrow out there;
She weeps and *takes on* so.

BEAUM. & FL. Coxcomb, act iii.

M.S. H.H. C.C. F.E.A. P.D. H.A.D.

TAKE TO. To own, to acknowledge, to become attached to. "The child *takes to* its nurse nicely."

C.C. "Tack to." H.A.D.

TAKE UP. To clear up, to become fine; the weather is said to *take up* when it becomes dry and settled after a long continuance of rain. If, after a thaw, there is an appearance of renewed frost, it is said, "The frost will not go yet, it will *take up* again."

H.P. H.A.D.

TAKEN. The participle is frequently used for, or confounded with, the past tense, as, "I *taken* it," instead of "I took it."

L.H. H.A.D.

-TAKING. Condition; plight; dilemma. "He's in a pretty *taking*," is often said of a person after any unexpected disaster, or when placed in an awkward dilemma.

What a *taking* was he in when your husband asked who was in the basket.

Merry Wives of Windsor, iii. 3.

C.C. "Tackin." H.S. L.H. H.A.D.

2. Pleasing, insinuating, captivating. "Her manners are very *taking*." "The child has such *taking* ways." "It is very *taking*" is often said of an interesting book.

H.S. H.A.D.

TALE. "To tell a *tale*." To divulge the latent motives of action by some inadvertent act. "Ah! that tells a *tale*."

TALLOW-CAKE. The fat of a slaughtered animal rolled up by the butcher in the form of a cake, ready for converting into tallow by the chandler.

C.C. H.A.D.

TALLY. In counting articles which are sold by *tale*, or the hundred, and not by weight or measure, one is thrown aside at each hundred to keep the reckoning, and is called the *tally*. Of course the number of *tallies* shews the number of hundreds; they are usually given in to the purchaser. A.-Sax. *tellan*, *talian*, to tell, to reckon.

Death did at length so many slain forget,
And lost the *tale*, and took them by the great.

DRYDEN'S Conquest of Granada.

H.H. H.A.D.

TAN. "I'll *tan* your hide." An archaical mode of threatening chastisement. A.-Sax. *tan*, a switch or a twig. A switch, I believe, is still called a *tan* in Lancashire.

B.N.C. C.C. H.S. P.D. H.P.

TANDER. } Corruptions of St. Andrew, who is
TANDREW. } looked upon by the lacemakers as their patron saint, as St. Crispin is considered the patron of shoemakers. The 30th of November, the anniversary of this saint, is, or rather was, kept by lacemakers as a day of festivity and merry-making; but since the use of pillow-lace has in a great measure given place to that of the loom, this holiday has been less and less observed.

TANG or TONG. To sound loudly and clearly, like a dinner-bell, or one that summons a congregation to church.

Let thy tongue *lang* arguments of state.

Twelfth Night, ii. 5.

H.S. H.A.D.

The following curious metrical list of forfeits relating to the improper ringing of church-bells, framed, and hang-

ing in Harleston belfry, is, I think, worthy of preservation. It is something similar to the forfeits which, when barbers practised tooth-drawing and blood-letting, as well as shaving, hung in their shops to warn customers against meddling with the various instruments employed. Such a list is remembered as hanging, many years ago, in a barber's shop in Northampton; and Shakspeare alludes to barbers' forfeits in the *Winter's Tale*, iv. 2.

Who turns a bell while light or dark
Shall two pence pay to parish clerk.

Who turns a bell on Sabbath Day
Double the sum at least shall pay.

With hat who rings, or with spurs on,
Must four pence pay, or else be gone.

Ring not till four, nor after nine;
Who keeps worse hours pays twelve pence fine.

Who climbs a wheel, or cuts a rope,
Escape resentment cannot hope.

And who these forfeits will not pay
Presented is the next court day.

Who blots, or scrats, or tears this down,
Will prove himself to be a clown,
And for his fault shall pay a crown.

TANG. To *tang* bees is to ring a bell, or make a noise with a key or some piece of metal on a shovel or warming-pan at the swarming of a hive of bees, to give notice of the rising of the swarm, which, according to a very prevalent notion, could not be followed or claimed, if the bees settled on a neighbour's premises, unless this announcement was made. It is also believed that this *tanging* assists in collecting them together.

F.E.A. "Ting." A.W. H.S. L.H.

TANK or TONK. A smart blow. "He fetch'd him a *tank* o' th' yed."

E.L. H.A.D.

TANNER'S CLATS or CLOTS. Bark, after it has been deprived of its astringent properties, made into small squares, and dried for fuel. Now rarely used.

TANT.

TAINT. { Contractions of "It is not." "No *tain't*."

TFN'T.

TANTONY. The small bell over the church-porch, or between the chancel and the nave: the term is also applied to any small hand-bell. "Ring the *tantony*" is evidently a corruption of *St. Anthony*, the emblem of that saint being a bell at his tau-staff, or round the neck of his accompanying pig.

TANTARROW. A pie made of meat and apples, &c.; somewhat akin to SQUAB-PIE. "We shall have a *tantarrow* for dinner."

TANTLE. To nurse and feed with care; as, "I shall buy a pig and *tantle* it up by Christmas:" *i. e.* pay every attention to it, and endeavour to get it fat by that time.

G.&P.

TANTLING. Petting a humoursome child. "The children are always so tiresome when you have been *tantling* them." When two persons are particularly attached, and generally accompany each other in their walks, it is commonly said, "They are always *tantling* after each other."

TANTRUMS. Airs, megrims, odd freaks and fancies. "My lady was in her *tantrums* to-day; there was no bearing her airs and her whims." When applied to children, it denotes passionate fretfulness. "The child was in his *tantrums*; he struggled so, I could hardly

hold him." Jamieson inserts this word, and cites the following illustration:—

— I thought where your *tantrums* wad en'.

JAM. Popular Ballads, i. 299.

M.S. W.C. "Antrims." C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D. "Tantums."

TAP. To *tap* a note or sovereign is to get it changed in order to spend it. "It'll soon go now it's once *tapp'd*."

C.C. H.A.D.

TAP-DISH. A dish with a plug in the centre to enable the dish to be emptied without removal. The term occurs in an advertisement in the Northampton Mercury.

TAP-LASH. Weak, poor, vapid liquor of any kind. Allied to CAT-LAP.

The reason whereof is drinking colledge *tap-lash*.

RANDOLPH'S Aristippus, p. 303.

B.N.C. 2nd ed. C.C. H.H.app. L.H. G.&P. H.A.D.

TAP-OOZE. } The wicker strainer placed over the
TAP-WHISK. } mouth of the tap in a mash-vat when
brewing, to allow the wort to *ooze* through, and to prevent the grains passing. THEAD is the name given to it in some parts of the county.

TAPPY-LAPPY. As hard as you can go. Applied to running.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

TARE. To go at full speed. "How he *tares* along!" "What a hurry she's in! she goes *taring* along." This word, though in such general use with us, is unnoticed by the lexicographers, and only occurs in the Devonshire Glossary.

TARTAR. "She's caught a *tartar*:" *i. e.* one who is keener and sharper than she anticipated.

TASKER. A thresher who works by the great or measure, and not by the day: by the *task*. Grose attributes it to Norfolk, but it is not inserted in Forby. The

name has become obsolete from the introduction of the threshing-machine.

H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

TASTY. Savoury, relishing. "Plain food is best for her, but she likes something a little *tasty*."

TATCHY or TETCHY. Cross, peevish, fretful. "The child's so poorly, it makes it quite *tatchy*."

Tetchy and wayward was thy infancy.

Rich. III. iv. 4.

R.E.S.C. G. H.A.D.

TATTER-WALLOPS. Ragged clothes fluttering in the wind. Jamieson defines it rags in a fluttering state.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

TATTY. Nathan.

TAW. A choice marble which is used by schoolboys for shooting at the ring. See ALLEY. The mark boys shoot from is called *taw*. "Shoot from *taw*." "You don't stand at *taw*." Termed long or short *taw* according to the distance. Used metaphorically for compelling a person to come up to the mark, to do what is right. "If you don't do so and so I'll bring you to *taw*."

M.S. H.H. H.P. H.A.D.

TAWER. A maker of husbandry harness. A.-Sax.

Tawere. The lexicographers and some of the glossarists define it a fellmonger or dresser of leather.

TAWSY. A term applied to clover and hay when it does not separate freely with the fork, but clings together in tangled masses. "How *tawsy* the hay is."

TAZZLED. Entangled, twisted, curled up: nearly allied to TOUZLED or TWIZZLED. Probably a diminutive of the A.-Sax. *tass*, a heap.

TEA-KETTLE BROTH. Bread, butter, pepper, and salt, with boiling water.

TED. To spread abroad new-mown grass out of the swath and disperse it over the ground, so that the sun and wind may have freer access to it. "I *teede* hey, I tourne it afore it is made in cockes, *je fere*." Palsgrave. Phillips calls it a country word; Webster considers it local; but I think it is in use throughout the kingdom.

Go, sirs, and away
To *ted* and make hay.

TUSSER (ed. 1580), p. 50, b.

How beautiful and fresh the pastoral smell
Of *tedded* hay breathes in this early morn.

CLARE'S Rural Muse, p. 135.

R.S.E.C. G. C.C. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

TEEM. To empty, to pour out. "*Teem* the tub." Pynson, "Temyn or maken empty. *Evacuo*."

R.N.C. B.N.C. W.C. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. "Team." T.G.
G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

TEENY or TINEY. Very small. Used both of children and things. "Give me a *teeny* bit." "He's a little *tiney* child."

R.N.C. M.S. H.H. H.S. A.W. L.H. G.&P. H.A.D.

TEER or TERE. To spread, to daub, to dirty. "The child's face is *teer'd* all over with treacle." Bishop Kennett's MS. Glossary has "*Teer*, to daub with clay, apud Boreales Sax. *tero*."

TEERY. Smeary, adhesive. Handling moist sugar and plums will make the hands *teery*.

E.L. H.A.D.

TEG. A lamb-hog, or yearling sheep. Teg wool is the wool of the first shearing when the sheep is little more than a year old. *Vide* SHEEP.

E.L. H.A.D.

TELD. Told. A very common corruption. "I *teld* him I'd do it."

And *teld* how the Lord hadde let him out of the prisonne.

WICLIFF, *Dedis*, xii.

B.N.C. H.H.app. C.C. H.A.D.

TELL. To know, to recognise. "I could'nt *tell* him in the crowd." "They were so like I could not *tell* 'em apart."

C.C. H.A.D.

2. Information, report. "I never heard *tell* o' such a thing." There is good authority for this singular usage of the word:—

As ich herd *telle*.

PIERS PLOWMAN, Dobett. 3 pass. (Craven Glossary.)

I herd never *telle*, for what maner discert.

R. BRUNNE. (Encyc. Metropo.)

C.C. H.A.D.

3. To be effective. "That *tells* well." "That speech *told* well."

4. To count, to reckon. "*Tell* your money." A.-Sax. *tællan*. Pynson has *Tellyn* or nowmeryn. *Numero*." This old form of the word is going into disuse.

M.S. B.N.C. H.A.D.

TELLS. Rhymes used by children to determine who is to commence any game. Those who are going to engage in the play stand in a circle, or a line, and one of the number repeats a *tell*, touching each play-mate in succession with the fore finger as she repeats each word, spelling the last, and the one whom the last letter falls to is to commence the game, or to preside over it. *Tells* have probably originated from the A.-Sax. *tællan*, to *tell*, to number.

These lottery rhymes are numerous, and seem to be widely spread. Jamieson's Supp. under "*One Erie*," records two; Halliwell's Popular Rhymes has two very similar ones, which he calls "Counting-out Rhymes," and he includes three others found in the Swedish language. The two following jingles (a name

they sometimes bear instead of *tells*) have been chosen as specimens of the apparently unmeaning doggrel that is used on these occasions:—

Any, many, mony, my,
 Barcelony, stony, sty,
 Harum, scarum, frownum ack,
 Harricum, barricum, wee, wi, wo, wack.
 Ink, pink, pen and ink,
 I command you to be
 O-u-t of this link.

Hicktum, ticktum, tandry-datum,
 Pisum, posum, rosum, dee,
 Eggs, butter, cheese, bread,
 Stick, stock, stone, dead.
 O-u-t spells out

TELL-CLACK or TELL-TALE. A tale-bearer. Exemplified in the old metrical nursery threat:—

Tell tale tit, your tongue shall be slit,
 And every dog in our town shall have a bit.

TELL-POST. A direction-post. See FINGER-POST.

TENT. To watch, to attend. Of which it is an abbreviation. Boys are said to *tent* the corn; or to go a bird-*tenting* when they are employed to frighten or scare birds from corn. Used by Wicliff and other early writers.

See ye take *tent* to this, and ken your mother.

BEN JONSON, *The Sad Shepherd*, ii. 3.

R.N.C. B.N.C. 2nd ed. W.C. C.C. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

TERRIFY. To tease, to annoy, to irritate. Flies tormenting animals are said to terrify them. We have also another singular application of the word, "I can't *terrify* myself with no books:" *i. e.* I can't be disturbed or troubled with reading. "The rash did *terrify* me so."

M.S. F.E.A. L.H. H.A.D.

TETHER. To confine cattle to a limited pasturage by tying them with a rope to a stake driven into the ground for that purpose.

We passed the Canterbury bell,
The meadow-sweet like feathers,
The blanket camps, where gipsies dwell,
And asses graze in *tethers*.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

C.C. H.H. H.A.D.

TETON BROOK. A brook in Northamptonshire, so tortuous in its course that it has become proverbial. "In and out like *Teton Brook*."

TEWING. Toiling, labouring. Almost obsolete. A medical gentleman to whom I am indebted for this word, inquired of an old asthmatic patient how he was, when he replied, "Oh! Sir, I go *tewing* and *tewing* along." Todd gives the verb "*Tue* or *Tew*, and says, perhaps from *teogan*, Sax. to tug." It is current in the Northern counties and in Scotland. The Wiclif MS. Luke xii. furnishes the word in a somewhat different form: "*Biholde 3e lilyes of ye feeld, how yei waxen, yei tueilyn not neip spynnen*."

B.N.C. C.C. "Teugh." H.H. H.A.D.

THACK. An archaical mode of pronouncing thatch, employed in the phrases, "He eats like a *thacker*." "THACK and mortar," which see, and in the old adage:

Thack and dike,
Northamptonshire like.

A.-Sax. *thac*.

That they would ever in houses of *thacke*
Their lives lead.

CHAUCER'S Dream.

The houses of these two tounnes be partly slatid, partly *thackk'd*.

LELAND'S Itin.

G. W.C. B.N.C. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

THACK AND MORTAR. A phrase applied to any one who works with eagerness and energy to complete any labour. "He set to it *thack and mortar*." Perhaps this expression may be traced to the expeditious mode still observed in some of our villages of building walls and cottages with a mixture of mud and short straw.

E.L.

THACK-SPARROW. The common house sparrow.
Fringilla domestica. (Linn.)

THANG-NAIL. A small bit of reverted skin at the side of the finger nail; literally the A.-Sax. "*Angnægl*, a sore under the nail," with the article prefixed: the practice of conjoining the article to the noun when beginning with a vowel, without any mark of elision, being very frequent in Gower and other early writers, though since the time of Elizabeth it has fallen into disuse. For the various synonymes see **ANGNAIL**.

THAT'N. That way, in that manner. "I shall do it i' *that'n*."

W.C. F.E.A. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

THAT THERE. A rustic pleonasm for *that*.

C.C. H.A.D.

THAVE or **THEAVE.** A female sheep of the second year. See **SHEEP**.

R.S.E.C. G. M.S. E.L. H.A.D.

THEAD. See **TAP-OOZE**.

F.E.A.

THEIRSELS. Used for the objective pronoun *themselves*. Servants are often told "to keep *theirsels* to *theirsels*:" i. e. to avoid gossiping with their neighbours.

C.C. H.A.D.

THEM THERE. Those. "Who do *them there* sheep belong to?"

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

THEN. The time. "It'll be done by *then* you return."

F.E.A. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

THENDER. Yonder. "He lives over *thender*:" i. e. over yonder.

THERE AWAY. There about; in that part.

C.C. H.A.D.

THERE AND THEN. In that place, at that time. "He did it *there and then*."

THICK. Intimate; on familiar footing. "They are very *thick*." "As *thick* as inkle-weavers:" which *see*.

THICK AND THIN. "To go through *thick and thin*;" to be regardless of obstacles. Applied most frequently to a person walking in very dirty roads. "He went through *thick and thin*, and didn't stand to pick his way."

C.C. H.A.D.

THICK IN THE CLEAR. An expression commonly used when any one who is hoarse and husky from a cold is attempting to clear his voice. "Why, you are *thick in the clear*."

THICK-SET. Strong, stout, well made.

C.C. H.A.D.

THILANKS or THILLANKS. *See* FILANKS.

THILLER. *See* FILLER.

THIN-SKINNED. Sensitive; easily offended.

H.A.D.

THINK SHAME. To be ashamed, to feel abashed. Jamieson says this idiom seems pretty ancient, and cites several early authorities.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C.

THINK WELL. To approve. "I'll do it, if you *think well*."

THIRDS. The SECONDS ground with a larger portion of bran. Sometimes called RANDAN. *See* GRUDGEONS.

THIS'N AND THAT'N. In this and that manner.

“Do it a *this'n and that'n*.”

G.&P. B.N.C. F.E.A.

THOMASING. *See* GOODING.

THONE. Damp, moist, not thoroughly dried. Corn is said to be *thone*, whether in the rick or after it is threshed, if it be too moist for grinding. In some counties it is called *thane*, from the A.-Sax. *than*, moist, wet.

R.N.C. E.L. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

THONY. Moist, damp. Applied to the weather.

C.C.

THORNS. To stand or sit upon *thorns* is to be in a state of disquietude or impatience. “I was kept so long, I stood upon *thorns*.”

Come, come! *I stand o' thorns*.

FLETCHER'S Monsieur Thomas, v. 5.

Landlord. . . . It is not in this pocket.

Sir John. Search in the other, then; *I stand on thorns*.

DRYDEN, Sir Martin Marr-All.

I stand on thorns; prithee dear look out, and see if the coast be free for our escape; for I dare not peep for fear of being known.

Ibid. Spanish Friar.

THOROUGH. }
THURRAR. } A furrow. *See* RIG, for examples of
THURROW. } the use.

E.L. H.A.D.

THRAIL. A flail.

THRACKED. Packed full; stowed with care. Used in Northampton market for a hamper of apples. “It was *thracked* full.”

THRALL. A frame or stand for beer-barrels. A.-Sax. *thræl*, a servant. Pynson gives *thralle*, servus. Beer-barrels and *thralls* are advertised for sale in the North-

ampton Mercury. A hand-barrow is occasionally so called.

E.L. H.A.D.

THRAVE. A throng; a great number of persons. This word is evidently a metaphorical use of the agricultural term, *thrive*, for twenty-four sheaves of wheat, from A.-Sax. *threaf*. In the curious list of "The Companies of Bestys and Foules," in the Book of St. Alban's, ed. 1486, a *thrive* of threshers is humorously put for a company or number of threshers. Jamieson defines *thrive*, a multitude.

He sends forth *thraves* of ballads to the sale.

Bp. HALL's Satires, p. 113.

—— Gallants, men and women,
And of all sorts, tag, rag, been seen to flock here
In *thraves* these ten weeks, as to a second Hogsden.

BEN JONSON's Alchymy, v. 2.

In came visitants a *threave*;
To entertain them she mon leave
Her looking-glass.

RAMSAY's Poems, ii. 463. (Jamieson.)

H.P. H.A.D. *Burns*

THRAVING. Thronging, crowding. "How they go *thrav*ing along to church!"

THREAP. To affirm positively; to persist pertinaciously. A.-Sax. *threapian*, redarguere. Not common.

He *threeps* the castle and lands are his ain, as his mother's eldest son.

The Antiquary.

G. W.C.app. B.N.C. H.H. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

THREE FACES UNDER A HOOD. Heartsease. *Viola tricolor*. An old name, occurring in Skinner and Culpepper.

THRIBBLE. Treble, threefold.

H.H. H.A.D.

THRID. Thread. Not uncommon in old writers. Shakspeare uses it.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

THROAT-LATCH. The narrow thong of a horse's bridle that passes under the throat.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

THROUGHS. Pronounced *thruffs*. A technical term for stones of sufficient length to pass *through* a wall. Same as PARPINS, only not placed at angles. *Through-stones* are noticed in Parker's Glossary of Architecture, but they are considered as exactly synonymous with *perpents*; no mention is made of the restriction of *perpents* to the angles.

C.C. "Thruffe."

THROV. The old preterite of *to thrive*.

THROWN. "*Thrown* on my back:" a phrase signifying defeat.

2. Hindered; deceived by miscalculation. "I've been so *thrown*, I sha'n't finish my work so soon as I expected."

THRUFF or THRUFT. Loose, spongy, brittle. Applied almost exclusively to wood. Sometimes FRUFF, which *see*.

THRUMMETY. The most common pronunciation of FRUMMETY: which *see*.

THRUMP. To thrive, to swell. "How the meat *thrumps* up in boiling!"

—THRUP. The almost universal pronunciation of *thorpe*, whether as an adjunct or a termination in the names of places; as, *Thrup Malsor*, *Thrup Mandeville*, *Althrup*, *Kingsthrup*, *Rothersthrup*. When it is final, the *h* is generally sunk, and the *t* only is sounded, as in the singular abbreviation, *Ranstrup*, for *Ravensthorpe*. A.-Sax. *thorp*, a village.

THUMB. "He has him completely under his *thumb*:" *i. e.* in subjection, under his control.

THUMB-BAND. The band for a truss of hay.

THUMP. "*Thump* on the back with a stone." If a person receives what he considers an inadequate gift or remuneration, he is told, for his consolation, that, "it's — better than a *thump* on the back with a stone." This proverbial expression has found a place in the *Perey Reliques*, and in *Ray's Proverbs*.

And leave none to keep house but our new porter, John,
Who relieves the poor with a *thump* on the back with a stone.

Vol. ii. p. 325. (Ed. 1794.)

A bit in the morning is better then nothing all day,
Or than a *thump* on the back with a stone.

RAY.

THUNDERBOLT. The sheath of the alveolus of a belemnite. The name is also sometimes given to small irregular pieces of iron pyrites.

B.N.C. 2nd ed. H.A.D.

THUNK. The thong which passes through the holes in the HAAMES of a horse's collar, and serves to fasten it.

G.&P. H.S. E.L. H.A.D.

TIB'S EVE. Neither before Christmas nor after. "I'll pay you at *Tib's Eve*." "To-morrow come never, when two Sundays meet," is an expression of similar import.

TICE. To entice, to encourage. Old English, *tyce*. "I *tyce* one by fayre wordes to my purpose."—Palsgrave.

B.N.C. H.S. H.A.D.

TICING. Enticing, alluring. "This book is very *ticing*."
C.C.

TICEY. An abbreviation of Beatrice.

TICK. "As full as a *tick*:" a state of repletion. "I've eaten till I'm as full as a *tick*."

2. Credit; on trust. The statute 16 Car. II. against gaming enacts that, "if any person shall lose any sum of money so played for, exceeding the sum of 100*l.* at any

one time or meeting, upon *ticket* or credit," &c. Thus *tick* is evidently an abbreviated or slang term for *ticket* or credit.

TICKNEY. Earthenware.

TICKY, TICKY, TOUCHWOOD. A game among children, similar to "One Catch All." Touching wood, and repeating "*Ticky, ticky, touchwood,*" protects the players from being caught. Jamieson calls the game *tig*, which he says is the name for a slight stroke.

TID, MID, MIZZERAY, CARLING, PALM, PASTE-EGG-DAY. The last six Sundays in Lent. Brockett observes in his 2nd ed.—"Three of these are obviously from the Latin service: *Te Deum, Mi Deus, Misere mei.* The rest elucidate themselves."

TIDDY DOLL. A fine, dressed-up, young girl. Always applied to a small figure. "What a *tiddy doll* he's got for a wife!"

H.A.D.

TIDY. A child's pinafore; a covering to keep a child *tidy*. Hence the name.

2. Applied to quantity. "There's a *tidy* mess of apples on the tree."

M.S. H.A.D.

TIE or TYE. A match; an equal. In playing cribbage, or any other calculating game, if your opponent produces the same number as yourself, it is said, "That's a *tie*."

— TIED. Matched, equalled. Thus in the passage in King Henry VIII. iv. 2, where Queen Katharine characterises Wolsey.

— He was a man

Of an unbounded stomach, ever ranking
Himself with princes; one who, by suggestion,
Ty'd all the kingdom.

This expression has given rise to much difference of opinion amongst the commentators. Tollet understands it in the sense of "limited, circumscribed:" *i. e.* set bounds to the liberties and properties of all persons in the kingdom. Pope and Warburton adopt "enslaved" as its meaning; by giving the king pernicious counsel he *tied* or enslaved the kingdom. Hanmer and Farmer treat it as a false reading, and substitute *tithed*, intimating that he *tithed* all the kingdom. Our use of the word naturally extended into the neighbouring county of Warwick, and, in accordance with it, the obvious meaning of the passage is that, "ever ranking himself with princes," he acknowledged no superior, but considered that he *tied* or equalled those who ranked highest in the kingdom.

TIFF. A slight quarrel. "They've had a little *tiff*."

H.H. F.E.A. H.S.

2. To take offence. "She's taken *tiff*."

H.S.

TIFFLING. Faddling, trifling; to be busy with such things as require nicety and care. "You can't get on fast with such a *tiffling* job." Palsgrave well exemplifies this:—"I *tyfell* with my fingers, or busy myselve longe aboute a thyng to make it well to the countentyng of my mynde." "You have spented two houres to *tyfell* about this thyng."

F.E.A. "Tiffle." E.L.

TIG RIGS. Pigs.

TIG! TIG! or TIG RIG. A call for pigs. In Hampshire "*Chuck! Chuck!*" is used for the same purpose.

H.A.D.

TIGGY-HOGS. Millepedes. *See* OLD sows.

TIGHT. Tidy, neat, cleanly. "He's a nice *tight* little lad." Similarly used in Warwickshire.

Your mother knows ourselves were often pinch'd
To fill your bellies, and to keep ye *tight*.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 33.

TIGHT UP. To put in order, to arrange neatly. "I must *tight-up* the house, and then I'll *tight-up* myself."

— **TIKE or TYKE.** A tiresome, unruly person: generally applied to a boy or man-servant. "He's a tiresome young *tike*." *Tike* is a Runic word for a worthless dog.

Base *tyke* call'st thou me—host?

Hen. V. ii. 1.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

TILL. Money. "Have you got any *till*?" obviously from the receptacle for the money in a retail shop; always called the *till* or *till-box*.

2. **To.** Used by Chaucer and other early writers. Known to Ray. Hartshorne, in his *Salopia*, remarks that *till* is invariably used for *than* by the lower orders in Northamptonshire; but I have never heard it.

B.N.C. C.C. G.&P. H.A.D.

3. **To entice, to draw on, to tempt.** Now rarely heard except in the vulgar old adage, "One shoulder of mutton will *till* down another:" which is frequently used to coax a person to eat a little bit when their appetite fails, with the hope that, if they begin to eat, they may be drawn on to take a little more. Jamieson gives *teal*, *till*, in the same sense, and anticipates me in the following illustration.

Now stay thy harpe, thou proud harper,
Now stay thy harpe, I say;
For an thou play'st as thou beginn'st,
Thou'lt *till* my bride away.

PERCY Reliques, vol. i. p. 73 (ed. 1794).

TILLER. To throw out a number of stems from the same root: correlative with **STOOL**.

B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TILLY WILLY. Cloth made of worsted and cotton. The common dress of the lower order of aged females half a century ago; but fashion, which influences all classes, the low as well as the high, has rendered both the name and the material obsolete.

Cast away thy *twilly willy*,
Winter's warm protecting gown.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 35.

TILT. A ploughing. "The land has had so many *tilts*:" *i. e.* so many ploughings, this season. On the eastern side of the county the same term is applied to land lying fallow.

TILTH. Cultivation, tillage. When a field is in good *tilth* it is in good tillage.

Thei made of Ceres a goddesse,
In whom her *tilthes* yet they blesse.

GOWER, fo. xc.

Out of the stately strates the kight can cense the filth y breedes,
As men can cense the worthles weedes from fruitfull fallowes *tilth*.

GASCOIGNE'S Herbes, p. 149.

Give the fallow land their seasons and their *tilth*.

DRAYTON.

TIME. Apprenticeship. "He's served his *time*." "He'll be out of his *time* at Christmas."

C.C. H.A.D.

TIMBERSUM or TIMMERSOME. Timid, fearful.

M.S. B.N.C. J.S. C.C. P.D. C.S. L.H. A.W. H.S.
G.&F. H.P. H.A.D.

TIMMY. The same signification as the preceding word, of which it is manifestly a contraction.

H.S. L.H. H.A.D

TIND. Sometimes abbreviated to *tin*. To ignite either fire or candle; to light, to kindle. "*Tind* up the candles." A.-Sax. *tyndan*. *Tinder* has the same origin. The form of this word is various: Skinner and Ray

have to *tine* or *tin* a candle; Coles has *tin* a candle. *Tine* is used in Somersetshire and Wiltshire; in Cheshire, *tin*, *tine*, *tend*, or *tind*; Devonshire, *teen*: all these are good old words. Nares adopts *tine* or *tind*, and observes, "This word, though employed by Milton and Dryden, is now out of use." With us it is still current in the rural districts.

Neið mē *tendē* a lant'ne ȝ putten it undir a bushel, but on a candlesticke.

WICLIF MS. Matt. v.

As one candle *tindeth* a thousand.

SANDERSON'S Sermons (1689), p. 56.

W.C. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

TINE. To repair a hedge with dry wood: to *tine* a hedge is to stop a gap. A.-Sax. *tynan*, to hedge in, to inclose. Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, "*Tynyng* drye hedge: *sepes*." Verstegan gives *betined* in his list of old words, and adds, "We use yet in some parts of England to say *tyning* for hedging."

R.N.C. W.C. A.W. L.H. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

TING-TANG. The small bell of a church. A word formed from the iteration of sound; a practice which enters largely into the formation of many words and phrases, especially among the common people. This term is also applied to the sound produced by striking one piece of metal against another. I believe *ting* is sometimes used verbally: "*Ting* the bell."

G. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TINKER. To repair things by halves; to mend clumsily.

H.P. H.A.D.

TINKLE. Bp. Kennett, in his MS. Glossarial Collections, gives, "To *tinkle* a candle, to strike a light: Northamptonshire." I believe the term is obsolete.

TIP. To give. "*Tip* the cash:" pay immediately.

"Come, *tip* us a stave:" give us, or sing us a verse.

TIP or TIPE. To elevate on one end or side, so as to cause anything to run or fall out of a vessel or cart; to cause anything to fall. "To *tip* up his heels." "He's been *tipped* out of the cart."

J.S. P.D. C.S. H.P. H.A.D.

TIPES. The pieces of wood that project at the end of a cart, to protect it when tilted or raised up for the purpose of unloading.

TIP-TOP. A common colloquial reduplicative expression for anything particularly excellent; the best of anything; the very top.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

TIPPY. Smart, fashionable, the pink of the mode. "She's quite the *tippy*."

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

TIPPY-BOB. A fop.

There's *Tippy Bob*,
With a watch in each fob.

C.C.

TISSICKY. Husky, rough, tickling. "She's troubled with a *tissicky* cough." Todd defines *tisical*, consumptive. A *tissicky* cough is therefore a consumptive cough.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TIT. A small, light-made horse. "That's a nice *tit* of yours."

M.S. W.C. C.C. H.H. H.A.D.

2. Attentive, careful, indulgent. When a person is particularly attentive to, or indulgent to another, it is said, "He is very *tit* of her:" obviously from *tit-bit*. In Leicestershire, *tidd* has the same meaning.

TIT-FALL. A bird-trap made of four bricks.

TIT FOR TAT. Retaliation. Thus the old distich:
" *Tit for tat*; if you kill my dog, I'll kill your cat:" *i. e.*
I will treat you as you treat me.

——— And sae for that
We're on a level, *tit for tat*.

RAMSAY'S Poems.

C.C. H.P.

TITIVATE. To make yourself smart. To renovate.

B.N.C. 2nd ed. H.A.D.

TITTER. To ride on a balanced plank. A childish amusement. Called *teeter* in America.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TITTLE. To tickle. A.-Sax. *kite lung*, a tickling.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P.

TITTUP. A canter, a slow gallop. "Let's have a *tittup*." "She went *tittuping* along."

C.C. H.A.D.

TITTUPS. Fibs, falsehoods. It is often said to children, "You're telling *tittups*."

TITTY or **TITTY-PUSS.** A fondling designation for a kitten.

Let brutish hearts, as hard as stones,
Mock the weak Muse's tender moans,
As now she wails o'er *Titty's* bones,
With anguish deep.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 165.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

TITTY TITTY TOTTY. Tiny, diminutive. "There's only a *titty* bit o' candle."

F.E.A.

TIZZY. Sixpence.

H.A.D.

TO. Used instead of *for*, *of*, or *from*. "We had coffee *to* breakfast." "What became *to* him?" "It's different *to* mine."

H.A.D.

TO AN' AGAIN. Wavering, uncertain. "I take no notice of what she says, she's so *to an' again*."

C.C. G.&P.

= Talk back?
cf. *from* - want.

TOAD'S CAPS. All fungi which have a conical pileus.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P.

TOAD'S GENDER. The spawn, or gelatinous substance which incloses the eggs of toads. We also call it Toad's TODDER.

TOAD IN A HOLE. A piece of meat baked in a batter pudding. The same name is also given to bacon cut in small pieces and boiled in a crust.

M.S. H.P. H.A.D.

TOAD UNDER A HARROW. A common simile, applied to any one in a state of mental or bodily disquietude or suffering.

B.N.C. C.C. "Taad." H.A.D.

TOAD-SPIT. *See* CUCKOO-SPIT.

C.C.

TOAD-STOOLS. All agarics and boleti which have the pileus broad, flat, or slightly convex, such as might serve as a stool for a toad, as the conical ones might serve for a cap. Synonymous with FROG-SEATS and PADDOCK-STOOLS, which *see*.

The grieslie *tode-stoole* growne there mought ye see,
And loathed paddockes lording on the same.

SPENSER'S Shep. Cal. p. 199.

TOAD-SPIT. *See* CUCKOO-SPIT.

TOAD'S TODDER. *See* TOAD'S GENDER.

TOADY. To coax, to flatter.

TOD. A *tod* of fleece wool is 28 lb. by stat. 12 Car. 1. cap. 32, and it so continues; but if the fleeces are wound up by the shearer or shepherd, and not by a sworn woolwinder, an allowance is made of 1 lb. for filth, and the *tod* is 29 lb. When sorted and sold out by the woolstapler to the manufacturer, the *tod*, whether of clothing or combing wool, is 30 lb. being the eighth part of a pack of wool, which is 240 lb. The clown in Shakspeare's Winter's Tale exclaims, "Let me see: every

'leven wether *tods*; every *tod* yields pound and odd shilling; fifteen hundred shorn; what comes the wool to?" This passage puzzled and confounded the commentators till Knight suggested the simple and true meaning: "that the average produce of eleven wethers was a *tod* of wool, and that the value of a *tod* was a pound and odd shilling. And the clown asks, what would fifteen hundred fleeces come to?"

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TODDLE. To go feebly and unsteadily, as a child learning to walk. It occurs in Scott's *Antiquary*, "The bits of weans wad up, puir things, and *toddle* to the door."

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. G.&P. H.A.D.

TODDY. Heavy, weighty. A person weighty either in person or purse is said to be *toddy*.

TO DO. Fuss, bustle. *See* **ADO** and **DO**.

J.S. F.E.A. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

TOGGERY. Clothing. Halliwell says worn-out clothes.

TOKEN. To shew signs of. It *tokens* rain.

TOLD. Counted, reckoned. The preterite of *tell*.

The shepherd had *told* all his sheep in his pen,
And, humming his song, sought his cottage agen.

CLARE'S *Village Minstrel*, vol. ii. p. 31.

TOL-LOL. Tolerable, so so, in good health, generally used with the adjunct pretty, as "I'm pretty *tol-lol*, thank you."

B.N.C. 2nd. ed. C.S. H.A.D.

TOLT. To give yourself a blow by striking your head against a beam, &c. "You gave your head a rare *tolt*."

TOLTER. To move heavily and clumsily.

From cottage door, farm-yard, and dusty lane,
Where home the cart-horse *tolters* with the swain.

CLARE'S *Village Minstrel*, vol. ii. p. 76.

TOLTERING. Hobbling, lumbering, blundering.

Who, soon as mounted, with his switching weals,
 Puts Dob's best swiftness in his heavy heels,
 The *toltering* bustle of a blundering trot,
 Which whips and cudgels ne'er increased a jot.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 68, 69.

— TOMMY. Provisions given to workmen in manufacturing districts instead of money. The shops where the truck system is carried on are called *tommy* shops.

H.S. H.A.D.

TONG. *See* TANG.

TONGUE'S-END. "I had it at my *tongue's end*," i. e. I was ready to speak, but on reflection held my tongue.

TONGUE BANGING. Abusive scolding.

H.P. H.A.D.

TONKEY PIG or TUNKEY PIG. A short, thick, small pig of the Chinese breed—probably a corruption of *Tonquin pig*.

E.L.

TOOK. Blighted, blasted, infected, applied to the effect of heat or frost on vegetation. "The frost has *took* the greens." "The blight has *took* the apple trees."

Oh! to see how flowers are *took*,
 How it grieves me when I look!
 Ragged-robins, once so pink,
 Now are turned as black as ink.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1820), p. 71.

TOOP. To tip. "*Toop* it up." Drink it off.

TOOT. To peep, to look about, to espy, to pry. When a child first begins to notice objects it is said, "He begins to *toot* about nicely." "Why do you stand *tooting* there?" is said to a servant who is peeping and looking about instead of attending to her business. A person who stands idly at a door or window is *tooting* about. A child when it looks lovingly up in the face *toots* up.

All these senses are still in common use. Anglo-Latin Lexicon 1440. *Tote hylle. Speclā.* Florio renders both *Guatulura* and *Osolonento*, "a spying, prying, *tooting*." It is also sometimes applied to female dress correlatively with *Tut*, which see. Early writers furnish frequent examples of this word.

Ich *totide* up on that tree, and thenne toke hede
Whether the frut wher faire.

PIERS PLOWMAN'S Vision.

Than *toted* I in to a taverne, and there I aspyede
Two frere Carmes, with a ful coppe.

Ibid. Creed.

The popingaye * * *
That *toteth* oft in a glasse.

SKELTON.

Long wandring up and downe the land,
With bow and bolts in either hand,
For birdes in bushes *tooting*.

SPENSER'S Shep. Cal. Mar.

Nor *toot* in cheap-side baskets earne and late,
To set the first tooth in some novel cate.

BP. HALL'S Satires, p. 82.

W.C. H.H. H.A.D.

TOOTIES. Children's teeth. Always used plurally. When a child suffers pain from cutting the teeth a fond mother will often say, "Let mother feel of its little *tooties*."

TOOTLE. To try the notes in an under tone, as a singing bird before commencing his full song. As applied to infants, to *tootle*, is to flutter, and crow, and attempt to talk. "See how the child *tootles*."

And oft Dame stops her buzzing wheel
To hear the Robin's note once more;
Who *tootles* while he pecks his meal
From sweet-briar hips beside the door.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 25.

TOOTLING. The chirping and whistling of singing birds. The noise made with the tongue in playing on the flute or fife.

Sweet are the omens of approaching spring,
When gay the elder sprouts her winged leaves;
When *tootling* robins carol-welcomes sing,
And sparrows chelp glad tidings from the eaves.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1820), p. 207.

While on mellow *tootling* flute
Sweetly breaths the shepherd's tune.

Ibid. p. 133.

But soldiers they're the boys to make a rout,
With boasting bottle brimm'd with gin and rum,
The high-crown'd cap with ribbons hung about,
The *tootling* fife and hoarse rap-tapping drum.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 36.

H.A.D.

TOPPING. Substantial. "He's quite a *topping* man."
A *topping* person is a rich monied man.

Thease *toppingly* gests be in number but ten,
As welcome in dayry as bears among men.

TUSSER, fol. 45.

P.D.

TOPPLE. To turn over, to double in price. If in selling an article as much is gained as was originally given, it is often said, "That was a capital bargain, it *toppled* over:" *i. e.* it was sold for double what it cost.

M.S. C.C. F.E.A.

TOSH. A tooth so large or projecting as to be unseemly. Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440. "*Tosche*, long tothe, *colomellatus*."

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A.

TOT. A small mug holding about half a pint.

H.S. E.L. H.A.D.

2. To distribute beer with a small mug. "*Tot* it out," is a common expression amongst workmen when they are apportioning to each his share out of a large jug.

3. A fondling appellation for a child. "Pretty little *tot!*"
The only notice I find of this word is in Jamieson, who gives the following illustration:—

O waes me ! for our blooming *tot!*

A. DOUGLAS's Poems, p. 41.

4. "To *tot* about." To move with short steps as a child attempting to walk, or a feeble old person. "The old man goes *totting* along." Jamieson recognises this as well as the preceding noun.

TOTE. The whole. Generally used in form of a pleonasm. "The whole *tote* of 'em." Latin *totus*.

B.N.C. J.S. C.C. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

TOTTER-GRASS. Quake grass. *Briza Media*.

And eager gathering every flower they pass
Of yellow lambtoe and the *totter-grass*.

CLARE's Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 107.

The breeze is stopt, the lazy bough
Hath not a leaf that dances now;
The *totter-grass* upon the hill,
And spiders' threads are standing still.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 65.

TOTTLE. To walk unsteadily, in a tottering manner, as a child learning to walk. "See how the child *tottles* along." Nearly akin to TODDLE.

J.S. C.C. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

TOTTY-HEADED. Imbecile from age, giddy-headed.
Skinner gives "*Totty*, dizzy."

My head is *tottie* of my swink to-night,
That maketh me that I go not aright.

CHAUCER's Reve's Tale.

Or sicker thy head very *tottie* is,
So on thy corbe shoulder it leans amiss.

SPENSER's Shep. Cal. Feb.

F.E.A. H.P.

TOUCH. An attempt, a trial. "Let's have a *touch* at it."

2. A slight attack of pain, or illness. "A *touch* of the toothache." "A *touch* of rheumatism."

TOUCHED. Disordered in intellect. "He's *touched* in the upper story."

TOUCHER. A little. "It's as nigh as a *toucher*," or "within a *toucher*;" *i. e.* within the veriest trifle of fitting.

C.C.

TOUGH. Tedious, difficult. "A *tough* journey." "A *tough* job of work."

B.N.C. H.A.D.

TOUZLED. Entangled, as involved thread, &c.; rumpled, disordered, as female dress after romping or rude dalliance. A.-Sax. *Tæsan*. Bp. Kennett, in his MS. Glossarial Collections, gives "To *touse*, to pull about."

Dragleit thro' dirty dubs and dykes,
Tousled and tagged with town-tykes.

MONTGOMERIE, Watson's Collect. Craven Glossary.

M.S.

TOWING-PATH. The path by the side of a canal, along which the horse goes to *tow* or draw a barge through the water. A.-Sax. *teon*, to tug.

H.S. H.A.D.

TOWN. A general designation for a village, however small.

TOW-ROWING. Cleaning out dirty and disorderly places. "I've been *tow-rowing* about all day among the dust." This compound is evidently formed from *Tow*, to tug or pull; and from *Rout*, to search; *Row* being synonymous with *Rout*, and used much more extensively.

TRADE. Fuss, extra attention. "They make such a *trade* wi' me when I goo to see 'em." "The father makes such a *trade* wi' the child."

TRAFFIC. The transit of passengers, carriages, or

merchandize on a road. "There's been a great deal of *traffic* on this road lately."

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TRAILING. Following the same line or direction, as stragglers at the end of a mob or procession. "See how they go *trailing* along!"

TRAMP. To travel on foot. Also to walk with heavy steps. "He goes *tramping* along." Sometimes used substantively; a mechanic is said to be on the *tramp* when travelling from place to place seeking employment.

M.S. H.H. C.C.

TRAN. A technical term for a certain number of spokes and fellys for the making of wheels. Twenty-five is a *tran* of spokes, and thirteen is a *tran* of fellys.

TRANSMOGRIFIED. Transformed, metamorphosed, changed.

B.N.C. C.C. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

TRAPESEING. Gadding about through the dirt. "There she goes *trapesing* along."

J.S. P.D. H.S.

TRAP. "To be up to *trap*," is to be very cunning and sharp-witted in promoting self-interest. "Up to *snuff*," is a correspondent phrase.

We understand *trap*, Sir; you must not catch old birds with chaff.

FARQUHAR, *Love in a Bottle*, a. iii.

C.C. H.A.D.

TRAPS. Effects. Often applied to the household furniture, or working tools of the poor; but sometimes to small articles scattered about on a table. "Come, pack up your *traps* and clear the table."

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

TRASH. To tramp about with fatigue, to trample, to SOODLE.

B.N.C. C.C.

TRAY or TRAY-HURDLE. A large hurdle worked close; used for SHEEP-HURKS. During the great flood at Peterborough Fair in 1848, *trays* were fixed in the ground to prevent the timber being washed away. In some parts of the county a clothes-horse bears the name of *tray*. Halliwell gives "*Tray, a hurdle;*" and assigns it to Lincolnshire.

TREADLE. The foot-board on which the foot acts to put a spinning or other wheel in motion. A.-Sax. *tredd*, a step.

H.S. H.A.D.

TREE. The handle of a spade. *Tree* was commonly used in old English for wood; and *teen* ware for wooden ware.

L.H. H.A.D.

TRENCHER-MAN. A good *trencher-man* is a hearty feeder. The phrase remains, though the *trencher* is now disused and almost forgotten. Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, "*Trenchowre. Scissorm.*" So late as fifty years since both pewter plates and *trenchers*, or wooden plates, were in common use, especially in villages and farm houses; but the progress of refinement and the cheapness and abundance of earthenware have completely superseded them. *Playing a good knife and fork* is an equivalent expression.

He is a very valiant *trencher man* ;

He hath an excellent stomach.

Much Ado about Nothing, i. 1.

C.C. F.E.A.

TRESSELS or TRUSSELS. Long-legged narrow-topped stools, placed at certain distances from each other for supporting planks, boards, &c.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

TRIANGLE-WAYS. Cross-cornered.

TRICKY. Fraudulent, knavishly artful.

F.E.A. C.C. H.P.

TRICKSICAL. Playful, frolicsome. *Tricksey* occurs in some of the Glossaries in the same sense.

TRIG. "To *trig* off;" to take a secret or sly walk. "Where have you been *trigging*?"

TRIG. A term used by boys at marbles.

TRIGGERED. Dressed out fine. "How she is *triggered* out!" Said of a young person bedecked in her best. "She is going to *trig* herself out."

No better neighbour enter'd house than she,
A harmless soul with no abusive tongue,
Trig as new pins, and tight 's the day was long.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 96.

T.G. H.A.D.

TRIM. To beat. It is often said to children who have transgressed in any way, "I'll *trim* your jacket for you."

M.S. B.N.C. J.S. C.C. P.D. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

TRIMMING. A good scolding, or a good beating.

TRIMMER. A vulgar female scold, a sort of virago.

TRIVANT. A truant. Nares says the only instance he has found of this word is in the following passage:—

Thou art a trifler, a *trivant*, thou art an idle fellow.

BURTON'S Anat. Melan. pref. p. 10.

H.A.D.

TRIVET. A stand for a kettle over a fire. Not a *three-legged* stand as described by Todd.

M.S.

TROAF. The broad pronunciation of trough: in some parts of the county it has the short and sharp pronunciation of TRUFF, as in Shropshire.

TROLLY. A dirty indolent slattern. "Oh! what a *trolly* she is!"

TROPE. A long disagreeable walk. "What a fine long

trope I've had," is often said by a person fatigued by a long walk.

TROUNCING. A beating generally inflicted on disobedient children. "If you play *TRIVANT* you shall have a good *trouncing*." Moor, Forby, and others give the verb.

TRUFF. A trough. *See* **TROAF.**

H.S.

TRUMP. An honest man, a good fellow.

TRUMPS. Anything turning out more fortunately than was anticipated, is said to turn up *trumps*. A metaphor from playing cards.

H.A.D.

TRUMPETER. An egotist, one who trumpets forth his own praise. Sometimes it is said, "Your *trumpeter's* dead;" i. e. no one sounds your praises, so you are compelled to extol yourself.

Every man is the maker of his own fortune, and must be in some measure the *trumpet* of his fame.

Tatler.

TRUNDLE. Path or course. "Take your own *trundle*."

"I've brought ye up, expect no more from me,
So take your *trundle* now, and good luck may ye see.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 38.

TRUNKS. *See* **NINE-HOLES.**

TRUSS. A bunch of flowers growing on one footstalk, as cowslips, auriculas, and geraniums.

TRUTH. "Worn to a *truth*," an intensitive expression applied to worn-out garments.

TRY. To purify suet or pig's fat, by melting or **RENDERING** it down over the fire. This sense of the word appears a very ancient one, occurring in the translation of the Bible:—

As silver is *tried* in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

Psal. xii. 6.

Marshall, in his Rural Economy under Northamptonshire, defines this word, "to screen," which is only an extended use of the primitive meaning, to purify.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

TUCKED UP. Offended. "He was quite *tucked up*."

TUMBLE. To crease, to wrinkle, to rumple the dress.

See MUMBLE.

H.A.D.

TUNE. Temper, order. "He's out of *tune* to-day," or "He isn't in *tune*." Exemplified in the old weather proverb:—

A cold May, good for corn and bad for hay;

A dry May, and dripping June, brings all things in *tune*.

H.A.D.

2. Sum, amount. To the *tune* of any sum is a common phrase. "He's been taken in to the *tune* of a hundred pounds."

You look as if you were Don Diego'd to the *tune* of a thousand pounds.

Tatler, No. 31.

H.A.D.

3. To cry, to weep. Commonly used substantively. "I thought she'd a' had a *tune* over it."

TUNK. A blow, generally with force, so as to leave an impress.

TUNKEY PIG. See TONKEY.

TUNNEL. A funnel through which liquors are poured into casks or bottles. Old English; not obsolete, but in use. A.-Sax. *tunel*.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

TUPPENCE THREE HA'PENCE. The jog-trot of a horse. "He goes along *tuppence three ha'pence*."

TURK. "He works like a *Turk*," is a common simile for any one who labours with diligence and perseverance beyond his strength.

C.C.

TURK'S CAP. Monkshood. *See* POPE'S ODE.

TURK'S HEAD. A circular-headed brush with a long handle, used for sweeping ceilings and walls of churches and chapels. Called also POPE'S HEAD.

TURN. Year, season. "Shall you want any cowslips this *turn*?" *i. e.* this return of the season.

2. An equivalent; a compensation. When there is any disagreement in making a bargain, it is not unfrequently said, "Let me have my way this time, and I'll give you a *turn* next;" verifying the old adage, "One good *turn* deserves another."

3. "On the *turn*," curdling or approaching to a state of acidity; the effect of natural or artificial heat on milk, beer, &c.

C.C. H.A.D.

4. To bear, to keep out. "This coat will *turn* the weather," or "It 'll *turn* a good shower."

E.L.

TURN-OVER. "Apple *turn-over*." A piece of paste rolled out, and turned over to the opposite edge, with apple between; more commonly called apple-pasty.

M.S. H.P. H.A.D.

TURN-TAIL. *See* DEVIL'S COACH-HORSE.

TURN TURK. Among the varying opinions of commentators on this Shaksperian phrase, Steevens agrees most nearly with us; we use it very commonly for change of temper: as, "They fell out about the will, and he *turned Turk*, and went off without his tea;" for change of opinion or purpose, as, "I expected he'd do it till the last, and then he *turned Turk*;" but I never heard it used for change of condition or circumstances,

as is evidently implied in the second subjoined illustration.

Well, an you be not *turn'd Turk*, there's no more sailing by the star.

Much Ado, iii. 4.

If the rest of my fortunes *turn Turk* with me.

Hamlet, iii. 2.

TUSHES. Tusks: the teeth between the fore teeth and the grinders. "The boar's *tushes*." A.-Sax. *tusc*. The Shropshire Glossarist supplies early illustrations of this word, to which may be added the following:

Some with keen *tushes*, some with crooked beaks.

SYLVESTER'S Du Bartas.

O! be advised; thou know'st not what it is
With javelin's point a churlish swine to gore,
Whose *tushes*, never sheath'd, he whetteth still,
Like to a mortal butcher, bent to kill.

SHAKSPERE'S Venus and Adonis.

G.&P. H.A.D.

TUSSLE. To wrestle, to contend, goodnaturally rather than earnestly. "We had a *tussle* for it." The Craven Glossarist deduces it from the Germ. *tussel-en*, to struggle. Todd and Webster call this a vulgar expression, but it is a well-authorised word, as may be seen by the subjoined quotations.

And scarcely hatch'd, these sons of him
That hurls the bolt trisulcate,
With helmet shell on tender head,
Did *tussle* with red-ey'd pole-cat.

PERCY'S Reliques, St. Geo. for England.

I hate to see two people bear ill-will to one another after they have had a *tussel*.

FEILDING'S History of a Foundling, b. ix. c. 4.

G. M.S. J.S. B.N.C. H.H. C.C. G.&P. H.A.D.

TUSSOCKS. Tufts of coarse grass. **HASSOCKS** is, I believe, a more general term. Todd remarks, "It is
VOL. II. R

certainly an old word, perhaps from the Fr. *tasse*, a tuft."

M.S. F.E.A. L.H. H.S. E.L. H.P.

TUSSOCKY. Land overgrown with *tussocks*. "The land is very *tussocky*."

H.S.

TUT. The use of this word is restricted to any article of dress which stands up disproportionately or irregularly; a gown *tuts* up that is shorter in one part than another, so as partially to shew the under-garment; a bonnet *tuts* up that is too much elevated either in poke or crown. See TOOT.

TUTTY. Short-tempered, touchy, quick to take offence. "How *tutty* he is to-day; there's no pleasing him!" To take *tut* is to take offence.

E.L. H.A.D.

TWADDLE. Foolish, unmeaning, idle talk. *Twattle* is given in the same sense in the dictionaries.

TWADDLING. Walking with a feeble, undulating motion. "He goes *twaddling* along."

TWANG. A pungent, rank taste; applied almost exclusively to strong cheese. "What a *twang* this Cheshire cheese has!" The Anglo-Latin Lexicon, 1440, has, "*Tongge* or sharpnesse of lycour in tastyng, *acume*." Of which our word is only a variation. *Tang* is similarly used in some counties.

2. A sudden, acute pain: the tooth-ache, for instance. "My tooth gave me such a *twang*!"

C.C. H.A.D.

TWANKING. Sounding sharply. See illustration under SWINGLE.

TWA'N'T. An abbreviated corruption of *it was not*.

That while she lived 'twa'n't yours to know

A crumb of bread.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 167.

TWEA-FACED. Deceitful, double-faced. A.-Sax. *twefæld*, duplex.

B.N.C.

TWEAK. Irritable impatience. "What a *tweak* she's in!"

TWEEDLEDUM TWEEDLEDEE. Awkward fiddling.

TWIDDLE. To twist and twirl things about between the fingers, as a piece of thread or string: sometimes it implies being intently engaged upon trifles to little purpose. "What are you *twiddling* over?" Halliwell gives *tweedle*, as current in Devonshire.

F.E.A. H.P.

TWIDDLE CUM TWADDLE. Idle, unmeaning talk.

TWIG. To give such slight but smart correction as may be inflicted with a *twig*.

F.E.A. C.C.

2. "To hop the *twig*:" to go away suddenly; frequently said of any one who goes off in debt to avoid his creditors.

3. To comprehend, to understand. "Do you *twig* me?" To observe slyly, "*Twig* him." To understand by signs, "I *twig* you."

H.P. H.A.D.

TWINE. To murmur, to be fretful, or peevish; perhaps from whine.

C.C. H.A.D.

TWINGLE. To twist, or cling closely round anything contiguous. "The bindweed *twingles* about the hedges."

TWINK. A small space of time. "I'll do it in a *twink*," *i. e.* as quick as you could wink.

Then in a *twink* she won me to her love.

Taming of the Shrew, ii. 1.

M.S. H.A.D.

TWINTER. A beast or horse of two winters old. A.-Sax. *twy-winter*, duos annos natus. Bishop Kennett, in his

MS. Glossary, assigns it to Oxfordshire. Current in Scotland according to Jamieson.

Fyve *twinters* britnyt (sacrificed) as was the gyis,
And als mony swine, and tydy qwyis.

DOUG. VIRGIL, p. 130.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

TWINY. Fretful, uneasy.

C.C. H.P.

TWIPPY. See GUBBY.

TWIRL. A walk or ramble. "Come let's have a *twirl*."

TWIST. To have a good *twist*, is to have a good appetite.

C.C. H.A.D.

TWISTED. Cross, perverse. "She's a *twisted* piece of goods," is a common vulgar expression; and "as *twisted* as a ram's horn" is a general comparison.

TWIT. The short intermittent chirp of a bird, as distinguished from continuous song. In old writers *twire* appears to be synonymous.

The minutes seem'd hours—with impatience she heard
The flap of a leaf and the *twit* of a bird.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 147.

2. A fit of hasty ill-humour, snappishness.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

3. To divulge, to tell tales. A common term amongst school boys. "If he knows he'll *twit*."

4. To upbraid, to taunt, to remind a person of some old grievance, to throw it in his teeth. "He *twitted* me with it continually." A.-Sax. *æthwitan*.

I shall be

Twitted i' th' teeth with, I'm sure of that.

BEAUM. & FL. "Wit at several Weapons."

When I protest true loyalty to her,
She *twits* me with my falsehood to my friend.

Two Gentlemen of Verona, iv. 1.

M.S. H.P.

TWITCH or TWITCH GRASS. Spear-grass, couch-grass. *Titricum repens*. The transition is easy from

couch, cwich, squitch, *twitch*. A.-Sax. *cwice*, quitch grass, gramen. Marshall, in his Rural Economy, notices this plant, and enumerates two other kinds, the *Black Twitch*, hard fescue, *Festuca duriviscula*; and the *Running Twitch*, creeping bent, *Agrostia alba*.

The ploughmen now along the doughy sloughs
Will often stop their songs, to clean their ploughs
From teasing *twitch*, that in the spongy soil
Clings round the coulter, interrupting toil.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 25.

It plays on the smoke of the chimney at morn,
Curling this way and that i' the morn's dewy light;
It curls from the *twitch-heap* amongst the green corn,
Like the smoke from the cannon i' the midst of a fight.

CLARE'S MS. Poems, "The Wind."

M.S. F.E.A. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

TWITCH. A stout stick with a strong loop of string or leather at one end, used by farriers for keeping a horse in a steady position preparatory to bleeding or any other operation.

H.A.D.

TWITCH. A shooting pain. "My tooth gave me such a *twitch*."

TWITCHEL. To confine an unruly horse whilst any operation is performed by means of the **TWITCH**, placing the loop over the upper lip, and twisting it powerfully so as to hold the head tight and prevent struggling. A.-Sax. *twiccian*, vellicare. Brockett, in his 2nd edition, and Hunter, give *twitch*, to tie tightly, to cause pain.

H.S.

TWITCHY. Irritable, impatient.

TWITTER. To giggle, to laugh.

2. One who **TWITS**. "Don't tell him anything, he's a *twitter*."

3. A trembling, a palpitating sort of alarm arising from surprise, suspense, or fear. "I was all of a *twitter*."

R.N.C. G. M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

TWO. "Well of the *two*." A phrase that can only be explained by an example. A woman was asked, "How is your daughter to day?" "Well, of the *two*, she is better;" *i. e.* she is rather better than worse.

TWO-MEAL CHEESE. Cheese made of the night's milk *skimmed*, added to the morning's new milk, *i. e.* having two meals of milk in it.

G. H.P. H.A.D.

TWYBILL. A double-headed pickaxe. A.-Sax. *twibill*. All the earliest Lexicons give *twibill* or mattock, *marra*.

The churlish axe and *twibill* to prepare.

DRAYTON'S Polyolbion.

H.A.D. "Twibill."

TWYVILL. A flail; not frequent. The only notice I find of this word is in Skinner, who refers it to an axe, hatchet, sythe, or sickle.

TWIZZLE. To twist, to twirl. Variously applied, as to turn a thing round quickly and repeatedly between the fingers; to fall down spirally, like a wing feather from a bird in the air. "It came *twizzling* down." Corn that is beat about by the wind in different directions, till it is twisted and entangled, is said to be *twizzled*.

M.S. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

TYE. *See* TIE.

TYKE. *See* TIKE.

T'YEAR. This year, the current year. Confined to the northern part of the county. Perhaps an elision of the A.-Sax. *te*, the; or it may be an elision of the ancient pronoun *to*, synonymous with *this*, and still retained in the form of *to day*, *i. e.* this day. Forby, in his *East Anglia*, has some ingenious and appropriate remarks under TA, TE, To, saying that *to-year* is as familiar with them as to-day. In some few places it is so with us.

B.N.C. "2nd ed." A.W. L.H.

U.

UGLY. Stern, cross, ill-tempered. "He looked so *ugly* at me." Also used in the sense of awkward, disagreeable.

"This is an *ugly* business." "That is an *ugly* blow."

"He's an *ugly* customer."

ULL. Will. "*Ull* yua gua an ha' sum ta whim ma?"
i. e. Will you go and have some tea with me?

UN. One. "He's a bad *un*."

M.S. B.N.C.

UNACCOUNTABLE. Remarkable. "It's *unaccountable* bad weather." "He's an *unaccountable* bad *un*." Sometimes used as a noun, "He's quite an *unaccountable*."

UNAWARS. Unawares, by surprise. "They came upon me *unawars*."

H.A.D.

UNBARE. Synonymous with ABATE, which see.

UNBATE. Correspondent with the preceding word. See

ABATE. "There is a good piece of ground *unbated*, ready for getting out the stone;" *i. e.* the soil is cleared away down to the stone.

UNBEKNOWN. Unknown. "It's quite *unbeknown* to me." Bartlett, in introducing this word, observes, "that it is regularly formed from the A.-Sax. *be-knownen*, to know, to recognise, to acknowledge; preterite, *biknew*; past part, *biknown*; all of which are used by Piers Plowman."

H.A.D.

UNBETHOWT. Unpremeditated.

G. M.S.

UNCOME-AT-ABLE. Unattainable. Sanctioned in the Tatler.

M.S.

UNDERBACK. A broad shallow tub, used in brewing to receive the wort when running from the mash-tub. Also used for cooling the beer after boiling.

F.E.A. "Underdeck." H.P. H.A.D.

UNDERCUMSTUMBLE. To understand, to comprehend.

UNDERLING. A weak, inferior, dwindling animal, &c. The least thriving in a litter of pigs, or brood of chickens, is frequently called "a poor little *underling*." Fruit or vegetables smaller than the rest of the crop are called *underlings*.

UNDER THE WIND. Used metaphorically for obtaining any information secretly. "She got that *under the wind*."

UNDOFFED. Undressed. "He hasn't been *undoffed* this two days."

UNGAIN. (More commonly *Ongain*.) Inconvenient, intractable. "The garden lies very *ungain* for the house." "My horse is very *ungain*." An indirect roundabout road is an *ungain* one. A.-Sax. *ongean*, contra.

For tho' she take th' *ungainest* weas she can,
I'll ne'er ha't from you.

BEAUM. & FL. Cupid's Revenge, act iv.

G. M.S. C.C. F.E.A. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

UNGEAR. To unharness; restricted to husbandry horses. A mill is also said to be *ungeared* when the water is turned off or the machinery disarranged. A.-Sax. *ungirian*.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

UNGIVE. To begin to thaw; gingerbread losing its crispness, and salt or any other substance relaxing from the humidity of the atmosphere, are said to *ungive*. GIVE, FORGIVE, ONGIVE, and FRET, are all similarly applied.

UNKID. Solitary, dreary, desolate, inexpressibly lonely. A person would say of a house that stands alone in a dreary situation, "How *unkid* it looks, I should not like to live there." A child is *unkid* when it is first sent from home till it gets WONTED as it is termed. A poor woman remarked the other day, "It's very *unkid* to see 'em take the poor people to the hospital." Old people suffering from the loss of friends will frequently say they feel so very *unkid*. A.-Sax. *uncwyd*, quiet, solitary: hence, says Bosworth, the provincial word *unkid*. This word varies in orthography and signification in other districts. Hartshorne gives *unkert* as Shropshire, and *uncad* as the Northamptonshire form, but I never heard it so pronounced; Akerman, Cooper, Evans, and Holloway have *unked*; Jennings *unket*; the Herefordshire Glossarist *unkit*, *unkert*; and Halliwell *unkard*; Brockett agrees with us.

UNLICKED CUB. An awkward, unpolished youth.

Like to a chaos, or *unlicked* bear whelp.

3 Hen. VI. iii. 2.

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

UNMERCIFULLY. Very. "It's *unmercifully* bad."

H.A.D.

UNNATURABLE. Ungenial, as "*unnaturable* weather."

C.C.

UNPOSSIBLE. Sometimes pronounced *onpossible*. Impossible. In the early versions of the Bible where the word *unpossible* occurs, it is silently transformed to *impossible* in the authorised version.

For us to levy power proportionate to the enemy is all *unpossible*.

Rich. II. ii. 2.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

UNSTRUNG. Unwell, feeble. "I'm quite *unstrung*."

A very ancient figurative expression.

Y'fore among you many syke, and *unstronge* or feble.

WICLIF MS. Corinth. I. chap. xi.

H.A.D.

U. P. SPELLS GOSLINGS! Not an uncommon exclamation when any one has completed or attained an object. The origin of this apparently unmeaning phrase I must leave my readers to conjecture.

U. P. "It's all *U. P.* with him;" *i. e.* all *up* either with his health, or circumstances, he is in a hopeless state, he cannot surmount his difficulties or recover his health.

UP. Equivalent to happening, or taking place. When there is an unusual bustle in the street it is a common inquiry, "What's *up* now?" If there is an increased intimacy between any parties, or more frequent correspondence, it is commonly remarked, "I don't know what's going on, but there's something *up*."

UP-A-DAY or UP-A-DAISY. A fondling expression of a nurse to a child whilst lifting it from the ground, encouraging it to assist itself in rising. According to Forby, it is similarly used in Normandy. Bartlett enumerates it amongst his Americanisms, and traces it, as does Forby, to the A.-Sax. *up-adon*, to lift up.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

UPHOLD. To warrant, to affirm. "I'll *uphold* the horse to be sound."

Whate'er I forge, to feed his brain-sick fits,
Do you *uphold* and maintain in your speeches.

Titus And. v. 2.

UP AND TOLD. Promptly and unhesitatingly made a statement. "He *up and told* all about it."

W.C.

UPPER CRUST. "Mrs. *Upper Crust*." A fictitious designation for any female who assumes unauthorised superiority.

UPPER-HAND. Mastery. A constable who has a thief in custody, after resistance, has the *upper hand* of him.

F.E.A. H.P.

UPPISH. Captious, pert, self-opinionated, tenacious of opposition, as a servant who thinks she knows better than her mistress and returns pert answers.

M.S. B.N.C. F.E.A. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

UPS AND DOWNS. Changes, vicissitudes, alternations of prosperity and adversity. "He's had a good many *ups and downs* in the world." "He's got *up in the world*," is often said when any one acquires an improved position in society by his own industry.

UPSIDES. To be *upsides* with any one is to threaten retaliation for some injury or affront. "I'll be *upsides* with you." I'll be a match for you.

B.N.C. J.S. W.C. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

UPSTIR. Disturbance, confusion. "There was a great *upstir* over it." This very common term appears to have been omitted in our dictionaries.

H.A.D.

UP TO. This compound is used with considerable latitude.

1. To comprehend, to understand, often referring to some hidden purpose. "I'm *up to* you."
2. Equal to. "I don't feel *up to* my work;" *i. e.* not equal to it, either in capacity or in health. "*Up to* the mark," is correspondent.
3. Even with. "I'll be *up to* you;" *i. e.* I'll retaliate.

UP TO MY ELBOWS. A metaphor from the wash tub, expressive of a multiplicity of engagements or occupations, as "I'm *up to my elbows* in business."

URCHIN. A hedge hog.

Like sharpe *urchins* his here was growe.

CHAUCER's Rom. of the Rose.

But to fold up thyself like an *urchin*.

O. P. May Day.

G. B.N.C. C.C. H.H.app. L.H. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

2. Fairies were formerly called *urchins*. Nares observes, "That in the phrase still current of 'little *urchin*,' for a child, the idea of a fairy still remains." *Urchin* with us is used in commiseration for a child bare-footed and clothed in rags, "Poor little *urchin*." Sometimes used contemptuously.

C.C. L.H.

US. We. The accusative for the nominative. "*Us* are agoing." "*Us* ha' had wer dinners." "*Us* owes 'em a penny." This plural pronoun is also used for the objective singular, "Give *us* some tay;" *i. e.* give me some tea.

C.C. H.A.D.

USE. "To have her *use* again;" *i. e.* to recover the *use* of her limbs.

2. Interest. "Money out at *use*."

Indeed my lord, he lent it me, and I gave him *use* for it.

Much Ado, ii. 1.

O 'tis a thing more than ridiculous

To take man's full sum, and not pay *use*.

FLETCHER's Poems, p. 68.

H.S. T.G. H.A.D.

UVVER. Upper. Hartshorne observes the *p* by a metathesis, not unfrequent in the cognate tongues, is converted into *v*. "Give me a bit of the *uvver* crust." "The be-ast are gwon a' th' *uvver* side of the clus;" the

beasts are gone on the upper side of the close. *Uvver* is used as a distinctive appellation where two adjoining villages bear the same general name, as *Uvver* Heyford. It enters into many compounds as *uvverinost*, *uvverlip*, *uvverleather*, &c.

C.C. H.H.app. H.A.D.

UZ. Us.

C.C.

UZZARD. The letter Z. See IZZARD.

V.

— VALENTINING. Children going from house to house, the morning of St. Valentine's day, soliciting small gratuities. The children of the villages go in parties, sometimes in considerable numbers, repeating at each house one or other of the following salutations, which vary in different districts:—

Good morrow, Valentine !
First its yours, and then its mine,
So please give me a valentine.

Morrow, morrow, Valentine !
First 'tis yours, and then 'tis mine,
So please to give me a valentine.
Holly and ivy tickle my toe,
Give me red apple and let me go.

Good morrow, Valentine !
 Parsley grows by savoury,
 Savoury grows by thyme,
 A new pair of gloves on Easter day,
 Good morrow, Valentine !

The custom of making presents of gloves at Easter appears to be of long standing, as it is noticed in Bishop Hall's Satires, 1598. It was formerly customary for young people to "catch" their parents and each other on their first meeting on St. Valentine's morning. "Catching" was no more than the exclamation, "Good morrow, *Valentine* !" and they who could repeat this before they were spoken to, were entitled to a small present from their parents or the elderly persons of the family; consequently there was great eagerness to rise early, and much good-natured strife and merriment on the occasion.

In Peterborough and in some of the villages in the northern part of the county sweet plum buns were formerly, and I believe are still, made, called *Valentine* buns; and these buns, I am told, are in some villages given by godfathers and godmothers to their godchildren on the Sunday preceding and the Sunday following St. Valentine's day. St. Valentine is supposed amongst the rural population to influence the weather, as appears by the old saw:—

— In *Valentine*, March lays her line.

VALLY. Value. Amount as well in measure as quantity.

"There was only the *vally* of a bushel of apples in all the orchard." "I want the *vally* of two or three spunful of milk." "Dig down to the *vally* of seven or eight feet."

VAMPED. Invented. "It's a *vamped-up* story altogether." Analogous to a *trumped-up* story.

VARGE or **VERGE**. The projecting slates or tiles overhanging the gable of a building. The ornamental board which not unfrequently follows the course of the gable in old timber houses, or modern imitations, is termed the *varge-board*; a name which it doubtless receives from being placed at the *verge* or edge of a building. There is good authority for its use.

And if I should rehearsen by and by
The carve knots, by craft of masonry,
The fresh embowing with *verges* right as lines,
And the housing full of backwines.

LYDGATE'S Troy.

VARGIS. Verjuice. "As sour as *vargis*." Palsgrave has *vergeous*; Jamieson *virgus*.

VARLEDS. A vitiated form of violets.

VARMENT. Vermin. We are not without authority for this vulgarity:—

For many who smell like a kirkish *varment*
Can now, Sir, put on a lamb-like garment.

HUMANCE, Monitor. (Craven Glossary.)

M.S. B.N.C. J.S. W.C.app. C.C. P.D. T.G. H.P.

H.A.D.

VARSAL. Universal. We have the sanction of Shakspeare for this vulgar corruption:—

She looks as pale as any clout
In the *varsal* world.

Romeo and Juliet, ii. 4.

M.S. C.C. H.H.app H.A.D.

VESSEL. Used plurally. All the plates, dishes, and culinary utensils which are put into requisition during a meal. "Wash the *vessel* up." Never applied to a tea-service or to glasses. The term "*vessell*" seems to have been generally used in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries to designate the articles in pewter comprising what we now call a dinner-service; the term has disap-

peared with the custom of dining off pewter plates, or is retained only in our peculiar sense. See a very curious note in Way's Promptorium under "Garnysche."

VIRGIN-SWARM. A swarm of bees, from a swarm, in the same season.

H.A.D.

VLANNEN. Flannel. *Gwlanen.* Brit.

J.S. H.P.

VOIDER. A butler's tray. Nearly obsolete. Nares and others define it, "A basket or tray for carrying out the relics of a dinner or other meal," but his exemplification agrees equally well with our use of the word.

Piers Ploughman laid the cloth, and Simplicity brought in the *voider*.

DEEKER, Gul's H. B. ch. i. (Nares.)

W.

W is placed before some words beginning with a vowel, or aspirate, as *whoats* or *wuts* for oats, *wer* for our, *whot* for hot, *whum* or *whoam* for home. In certain words it is inserted, as in *bwile* for boil, *pwot* for pot. Sometimes it is silent when followed by double o, as *ood* for wood, *ool* for wool; and occasionally it is omitted, as *sore* for swore, *oont* for won't.

WABBLE. To boil fast. "The pot *wabbles*." Also used substantively, as "Give the meat another *wabble*;" i. e.

another boil. Wallop is synonymous. A.-Sax. *wapelian*, to bubble, wabble.

2. To be unsteady in motion, to vacillate. A boy whose top does not spin smooth and well, from the spike or peg not being truly fixed in the centre, will say it *wabbles*; and when a whip-top has nearly lost the impetus with which (to use a school-boy's phrase) it was "set up," and begins to move irregularly, the same term is applied to it. A.-Sax. *wafian*, to wave, to fluctuate.

B.N.C. F.E.A. "Wobble." T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

WAD. Woad used by dyers. Unaltered Saxon. Within memory there were *wad*-grounds in Hardingstone field and some of the neighbouring villages, with huts for the *wad*-men. A part of Kettering field is still known by the name of *wad*-croft, and is so described in the title-deeds.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A large quantity. The portion of corn laid on the barn-floor or BINSTÉAD ready for threshing is called a *wad*. Skinner gives, "A *wad* of straw," *fascis straminis*. A.-Sax. *weod*, straw. Holland translates *manipulus*, "a *wad* or bottle; *i. e.* a bundle." Kersey and Bayley define *wad*, "a bundle of straw." We also use it for a *wad* of sticks, an indefinitely sized bundle. Small cocks of hay made out of the hatchel (*see* HACK) are termed *wads*. Ash inserts "*Wad*, to make up into small cocks of hay or corn."

C.C. L.H. H.P. H.A.D.

3. A way or beaten track, a line of conduct pertinaciously adhered to. "He goes on in the old *wad*," *i. e.* in the same manner as formerly. A very old word for a path or road, occurring in the register of Pipwell Abbey, under Yelvertoft.

WADE. Corrupted in pronunciation to *weead*. To bathe. "He's gone to *weead*." Evans gives it *weed*.

G.&P.

2. To intermit. Applied to sunshine. "The sun *wades*, we shall have rain."

I saw my Meg come linkan o'er the lee,
I saw my Meg, but Meggy saw nae me;
For yet the sun was *wading* thro' the mist,
And she was close upon me ere she wist.

RAMSEY'S Gentle Shepherd.

How woeful the waste looks, how troubled the sky,
How dull the sun *wades* through the mist o' the hills,
A gray gloomy covering hangs under the sky.

CLARE'S MS. Poems.

Scott applies the term to the moon in *Quentin Durward*:

The moon which had now extricated herself from the clouds, which she was formerly *wading*.

WADGE. }
WADJET. }
WADJOCK. } A large loose bundle, a burden. Vastly applied. A large load on the back would be called a *wadge*; a heavy child would be "A pretty good *wadge* to carry;" a pocket stuffed full, would be called a *wadjet*; and a quantity of flour in a sack would be termed "a good *wadjock* of flour."

E.L. ° H.S.&H.A.D. "Waddock."

WAFFLE. To masticate and swallow with difficulty.

"It's so dry I can hardly *waffle* it down."

WAFFLING. Incessant barking. "A little *waffling* cur."

The hare so frisking, timid once, and gay,
'Hind the dead thistle hurkles from the view,
Nor scarce is scar'd, though in the traveller's way,
Though *waffling* curs and shepherd-dogs pursue.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 23.

T.G. "Waffing." G.&P. "Waughing." H.P.&H.A.D. "Waff."

WAITS. Nocturnal musicians who parade the streets at midnight about the time of Christmas, particularly on Christmas eve, playing and singing at the doors of

the principal inhabitants. At the conclusion of their serenade, they offer the congratulations of the season, and do not forget on the following day to solicit a gratuity for their performances and good wishes. This custom is still pretty general in our villages. In ancient times the waits were a kind of watchmen, and the word is apparently derived from the Moes.-Goth. *wahts*, vigilia, excubiæ. Hence in the Promp. Parv. *speculator*, *vigil*, and in Old French, according to Cotgrave, *guette*, a watchman. Hone, in his Every Day Book, remarks, "In London the *waits* are remains of the musicians attached to the corporation of the city."

The Corporation of Northampton, within the remembrance of my informant, had a band of musicians called the corporation *waits*, who used to meet the judges at the entrance into the town at the time of the assizes. They were four in number, attired in long black gowns, two playing on violins, one on the hautboy, and the other on a whip and dub, or tabor and pipe.

Hark ! are the *waits* abroad ? Be softer, pr'y thee,
'Tis private musick.

BEAUM. & FL. Captain.

The singing *waits*, a merry throng,
At early morn, with simple skill,
Yet imitate the angels' song,
And chant their Christmas ditty still.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 95.

B.N.C. C.C. H.H. G.&P. H.A.D.

WAIK. Weak. A.-Sax. *wæc*, *waoc*, infirm, weak. "It's a poor little *waikly* child." "A poor *wakely* body." There is good authority for this vulgarism.

Ich am to *waiik* to worche.

PIERS PLOWMAN.

My father was sa *wake* of blude and bane.

PERCY RELIQUES.

B.N.C.&C.C. "Wake." T.G.

WAKE. The annual commemoration of the dedication of the parish church; formerly observed as a vigil or watch. A.-Sax. *wæc-can*. For the present observance, see FEAST.

——— Our *wake* shall be on Sunday.

Do you know what a *wake* is? We have mighty cheer then,
And such a coil, 'twould bless ye!

BEAUM. & FL. Coxcomb.

And every village smokes at *wakes* with lusty cheer.

DRAYTON'S Poly-olbion, s. 27.

B.N.C. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

WALE.	}	The mark or seam raised on the skin by
WEAL.		corporal punishment or the bite of an insect.
WHEAL.		A.-Sax. <i>walan</i> .

The lash that *weal'd* poor Dobbin's hide.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 100.

M.S. C.C. "Whale." H.A.D.

WALLET. A sack fastened at both ends and open in the middle, so that it may be slung over a saddle (like saddle-bags), or over the shoulder of a man, in order to equalise the burden. This name, perhaps, is universal; but as the lexicographers define it a *knapsack*, and the Teesdale Glossarist a *school-boy's satchel*, I am induced to insert it here to show our variation.

WALLOCKING. A vulgar, slovenly, indolent gait: applied almost exclusively to a corpulent female. "How she goes *wallocking* along!"

WALLOP. To boil fast. "How the pot *wallops!* it *wallops* away." Used also as a noun: "Give it a good *wallop*:" *i. e.* Let it boil fast. Similar to WABBLE. A.-Sax. *weallan*, to boil, to rage.

M.S. F.E.A. H.A.D.

2. To beat. "They *walloped* him well." "It sarved him right; they gave him a good *walloping*."

M.S. B.N.C. J.S. "Wallup." C.C. H.S. T.G. H.P.

H.A.D.

WALLOPING. Large, strong, athletic. "A great, *walloping* chap."

B.N.C. 2nd ed. P.D. H.P. H.A.D.

WANDERING. Insensible, delirious.

WANEY or WEENEY. In sawing the bole of a tree or any round piece of timber into boards, when the width of the planks diminishes and the edges become bevilled they are termed *waney*. "Them there boards are so *waney*, you must get a good straight edge before you use 'em." The pieces that are sawn off are called *waney* bits, or *waney* edges. A.-Sax. *wanian*, to diminish.

WANKLING. Weak, feeble: often applied to a jaded horse. See PEAK. A.-Sax. *wancol*, unstable, unsteady.

H.L.

WANT. A mole. An old name, almost obsolete. A.-Sax. *wand*. Some of the Glossarists spell it *wont*.

R.N.C. M.S. P.D. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

WANTY. The primitive meaning of this word was, a surcingle for securing a wallet or other burden on a pack-horse. It was composed of leather, with a hook attached to one end and a rope at the other; which rope was passed over the hook, and by the aid of muscular exertion the burden was tightened and secured. It is similarly described in Kennett's MS. Glossarial Collections. Tusser, in enumerating husbandry-furniture, gives, "A panel and *wanty*, pack-saddle and ped." Although Tusser was a Suffolk worthy, Moor says he cannot find that the term is known in that county. The sense here described has become quite obsolete, probably from the discontinuance of the pack-horse: but the name is still preserved in the hempen cord or leather strap which passes under the horse, and is secured to both shafts, to prevent the cart rising up when heavily

laden. *Wanties* occur in an advertisement of sale in the Northampton Herald as late as 1850.

M.S.app. C.C. H.S. H.A.D.

WAP. To beat. "He got a good *wapping*." A.-Sax. *hweopan*, to whip.

J.S. "Whop." H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A heavy blow or fall. Used both to persons and things. "He came down full *wap*."

A *wap* wi' a corner stane o' Walf's crag wad defy the doctor.

Tales of my Landlord.

M.S. w.c.app. "Whap." H.H. J.S. "Whop." H.S.

H.P. H.A.D.

WAPPING. Large. Used as a superlative either for persons or things. "That's a *wapping* lie." "That's a *wapping* child."

H.H. H.S. H.A.D.

WAPS or WAPSEY. A wasp. A.-Sax. *wæps*.

M.S. F.E.A. A.W. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

WAR. The preterite of to be, in almost all the persons, as I *war*, he *war*, we *war*, &c.

C.C. J.S. A.W.

2. Worse. *War and war*, worse and worse.

They sayne the world is much *war* than it wont.

SPENSER, Shep. Kal. Sept.

C.C. H.A.D.

WARDAY. } Different pronunciations for working-
WERK-E-DAY. } day. "Sunday and *werk-e-day*." A.-Sax.
WORKY-DAY. } *weorc-dæg*. *Warday* is, I believe, obso-
lete, but is noticed in Bp. Percy's MS. list of localisms.

WARDEN-HANDED. Left-handed. Confined to the south-west side of the county.

WARM. To beat. "I'll *warm* your jacket, my lad, if you don't mind what you're about."

B.N.C. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

2. Rich. "He died pretty *warm*."

M.S. H.A.D.

WARDN'T or WERDN'T. Was not. "I *wardn't* afraid."

Upon making inquiry of a countryman if a toad was called a paddock, he replied, "It *werdn't* called so here."

C.C.&H.A.D. "Warn't."

WARNT. } Warrant. "I *warnt* he'll get on an ya

WAUND. } let him alun." "I *waund* you he'll do't;"

i. e. I'll answer for him he will succeed if you do not interfere.

J.S. H.P.

WARPED. Boards are said to be *warped* when they are cast or drawn awry by exposure to heat; but Clare applies the term to the bending of the sticks which form the foundation of the covering for a gipsey's camp:

Where *warp'd* the camp beneath the willows grey,
And its black tenants on the green-sward lay;
While, on two forked sticks with cordage tied,
Their pot, o'er pilfer'd fuel, boils away.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 53.

H.A.D.

WARTLE. To wrangle, to endeavour to provoke a quarrel by long-continued contradiction. "They're allus *wartling* together." Doubtless another form of *thwart*, as OVERWART, across.

WARTY-WHEELS. See ANGNAILS.

WASH. At the time of felling the underwood of a coppice, previous to the sale, it is customary to divide it into half-roods (the eighth of an acre), each half-rood being called a *wash*, and marked out in straight lines with sticks called *wash-sticks*. One half-rood, that is, the underwood growing upon it, is the perquisite of the keeper, and is termed the cabin-cut, because he has the privilege of constructing a cabin upon it with the best wood he can select, to serve as a shelter during the time of sale, after which it is the property of the keeper.

WASH-STICKS. Sticks six or seven feet long, and five

or six inches in diameter, cut from the underwood, for marking out a *wash*. The keeper's perquisite when they have served their purpose.

WASHER. A flat ring of iron or leather placed between the wheel and the nut of a carriage to prevent rocking or unsteady motion. *See* BUSH.

WASHING DAY. The following lines referring to washing on the different days of the week are, I believe, local. Halliwell, in his *Popular Rhymes*, p. 187, gives a variation obtained from Lancashire, and mentions an early version in Tusser, p. 199.

They that wash on Monday
Have all the week to dry;
They that wash on Tuesday
They have pretty nigh;
They that wash on Wednesday
Have half the week past;
They that wash on Thursday
Are very near the last;
They that wash on Friday
Wash for need;
They that wash on Saturday
Are sluts indeed.

WASHING-TRAY. A rectangular wooden tub, broader at top than bottom. Used for the washing of linen.

WASHY. Weak, insipid. "The tea is poor *washy* stuff."

WASTE. A consumption. "Poor thing! she'll never live, she's in a *waste*."

G.&P. H.P. H.A.D

WASTERS or WASTRELS. Imperfect articles of manufacture. "Put the *wasters* out that there clamp o' bricks;" *i. e.* those of inferior quality or unfit for use. The term is particularly applied to all kinds of defective earthenware.

C.C. H.H. G.&P. H.A.D.

WASTER. A detached bit of the wick of a candle, causing it to run to waste; commonly called a *thief*.

H.A.D.

WATCHERED or WATCHET. Wetshod. The shoes and stockings saturated from walking over boggy or soggy land. The former orthography is common on the western, and the latter on the eastern side of the county. *Watchet*, according to Grose, prevails in Oxfordshire. It varies in different counties.

G. L.H. E.L. W.C.&H.S. "Wetchet." H.P.&H.A.D.
"Watched."

WATCHET. Pale blue. I have no authority for this word but Clare, who uses it in accordance with this meaning.

Yelad he was full smale and propirly,
All in a kirtle of a light *watchet*.

CHAUCER's *Miller's Tale*, p. 26, l. 213.

But now the evening curdles dank and grey,
Changing her *watchet* hue for sombre weed.

CLARE's *Rural Muse*, p. 12.

WATER-BEWITCHED. Any weak, insipid liquor, of which water is the predominant ingredient.

M.S. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

WATER-BLOB. Marsh marigold. *Caltha palustris*.

And sigh with anxious eager dream,
For *water blobs* amid the stream.

CLARE's *Village Minstrel*, vol. i. p. 25.

WATER ELDER. Dwarf elder. *Sambucus ebulus*.
With.

WATER-GALL. A phenomenon, something like a second rainbow; said to prognosticate rainy weather. Steevens says the word is current among the shepherds on Salisbury Plain. Jamieson, under *Weddir Gaw*, states that the term *weather gaw* is used in the south of Scotland and in England to denote the secondary rainbow; that

it corresponds to Isl. *vedr spaer*, literally, that which spaes or foretels bad weather; that it is analogous to German *wasser-gall*, from *wasser*, humour, moisture, and *gall*, splendour; and that Wachter renders *wasser-gall*, splendor pluvius; referring to A.-Sax. *gyl*, splendit.

These *water-galls* in her dim element
Foretell new storms.

SHAKSPERE, Rape Lucrece.

Weather gall is synonymous in B.N.C. C.C. T.G.

H.A.D.

WATERY-SUNSHINE. The sun surrounded with a halo, portending wet; hence the name.

WATLING-STREET THISTLE. The *Eryngium campestre*. A name which it receives from the *Watling Street* being its only known habitat; though a very rare plant in this kingdom, it is common in Normandy.

WATTLE. To intertwine hazel or other flexible young wood.

Shepherds have *wattled* pens about,
To shear their bleating sheep.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 189.

M.S.

2. To beat. "I *wattled* him well." "He got a rare good *watting*." A chastisement probably inflicted with *wattles*. Halliwell gives it as Derbyshire.

WATTLES. Interwoven osiers.

WATTLE AND DAB. A method of building with flakes plastered with mortar, between upright, or horizontal studs; sometimes both. It is now little used except in the vicinity of the forests, and the obvious reason of its continuance there is the flakes being manufactured by the woodmen from the hazel that is grown in the coppices. The term probably originated from the A.-Sax. *watel*, a hurdle; used in the sense of our **FLAKE**,

which see, and the manner of DABBING on the mortar or clay, instead of spreading it on carefully or smoothly.

WAUND. *See* WARNT.

WAVERS. Young saplings, or maiden poles left standing till the second cutting. Ash *wavers* frequently occur in notices of timber sales in our local papers.

WAY. Anger, out of temper. To be so excited about any passing circumstance as to yield to fitful emotion. "She's quite in a *way* about it."

2. "To be in a *hinging way*," *i. e.* neither well nor ill.

C.C.

WAY-POST. *See* FINGER-POST.

WAY-WIND. The wild convolvulus or great bindweed. *Convolvulus sepium*. With.

WAY-TREE. *See* BATTLE.

WEAL. *See* WALE.

M.S.

WEARED. The preterite of the verb wear. "My gownd is aumust *wear'd* out."

WEARING. Tiresome, tedious. "It's a *wearing* pain."
"It's a *wearing* job."

M.S. H.A.D.

WEATHER-HEAD. A secondary rainbow. Akin to WATER-GALL.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

WEAVING. Moving backward and forward in a chair when uneasy or in trouble. "You're *weaving* your web of sorrow," is often said to any one so doing. A metaphor from the loom.

WEEAD. *See* WADE.

WEEDY. Slight, deficient in substance. Applied to slim, light horses.

C.C. H.A.D.

WE. {
 WEER. { Our. "We took off *wer* hats." "We've
 WER. { had *weer* dinners." "Let's have *we* teas."

E.L. H.P.

WEEZE or WOOZ. Orthographical variations of ooze. To effervesce and escape, as liquor which forces its way round a cork or the head of a barrel. "I'm afeard the bottle 'll burst, it *weezes* out so at the cork."

H.P. H.A.D. "Wese."

WEFT. A musty taste, generally applied to beer or wine that tastes of the cask. "The beer has a *weft* of the barrel." Palsgrave has *weffe*, taste.

WEFFING. Street sweepings or manure called "Street *weffing*," nearly obsolete.

WELL. Used colloquially as a kind of expletive, introductory to a sentence or in reply to a question. "*Well* I'll goo." "*Well* I don't know."

B.N.C. 2nd ed. E.L.

WELLICK. To beat, to thrash, to LICK *well*.

WELL MET. Well matched. At a convivial feast it is sometimes said, "They're all hail fellow *well met*."

WELL TO DO. Prosperous; possessed of a competence; at ease as to pecuniary circumstances. "He's very *well to do*."

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

WELLY. Well nigh, almost, nearly. "I've *welly* done it." "How much has your uncle left you?" "*Welly* a hundred pound." A.-Sax. *wel neah*.

G. B.N.C. C.C. W.C. H.S. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

WELT. To beat. "He *welted* him well."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

2. A narrow, perpendicular fissure, or seam, in a stone quarry. See Morton, p. 130.

WELTED. Dried or withered in the sun; applied to hay. "It is well *welted*:" or, "It is not fit to carry, it wants a good *welting* first:" i. e. a good scorching in the sun. *Welk* and *welked* occur in the same sense in Chaucer and Spenser, and are given in correspondent terms in Ray.

G. B.N.C. "Welk." F.E.A. H.P.&H.A.D. "Welk."

WERDN'T. See **WORDN'T.**

WERRICK. Synonymous with *werrit*, but much less frequent.

WERRICKING. Fretful, peevish.

WERRISH. Insipid, tasteless: *werrish* is the same to edibles as *wishy washy* is to liquids. Palsgrave has, "*Werysshe*, as meate is that is nat well taste." We also apply it to persons who recover slowly from illness: "She's very *werrish* at present:" or to those who are naturally weak and delicate: "She has a poor, *werrish* constitution." Todd observes, under *Weerish*, "This old word is used by Ascham in a sense which the lexicographers seem not to have known. Applied to tastes, it means insipid; applied to the body, weak and washy:" which definition agrees precisely with our use of the word.

WERRITED. Teased, pestered, or harassed over any domestic perplexities, or annoying importunities. "I'm *werrited* to pieces." "You *werrit* me to death." It has no discernible connection with *ferriting*, as conjectured by Dr. Johnson, but more probably a corruption of *worry*. A person *werrited* may be said to be mentally worried.

Don't keep *wherriting* me with your nonsense.

BICKERSTAFF, Love in a Village. (Todd.)

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. "Wherrit." G.&P. "Wherriting."

H.P. "Wherrit." H.A.D.

WESTON SPARROW. A small sparrow with a sandy head, less than the house-sparrow. My informant was unable specifically to designate this bird, but I conjecture it is the tree-sparrow. *Fringilla montana*. (Linn.)

WET. To rain slightly. "It *wet* a little." "It only just *wets*."

M.S. H.A.D.

WETHER. A male sheep of the second year. See SHEEP.

WET-MY-FOOT. The quail. *Tetrano Coturnix*. (Linn.) So called from its cry: it obtains the same name in Scotland. Jamieson has, "*Weet-my-fit*, the quail, from its cry." Clare exemplifies it in two of his poems:

And lonely chirp the wheat-hid quails
That come to live with spring again,
But leave when summer browns the grain;
They start the young girl's joys afloat
With *wet-my-foot*—their yearly note.
So fancy doth the sound explain,
And oft it proves a sign of rain.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 50.

* While in the juicy corn the hidden quail
Cries "*Wet-my-foot!*"

CLARE's Rural Muse, p. 115.

WHACK. A heavy blow, or a heavy fall. "He gave him a good *whack*." "He came down with such a *whack*." A variation of *thwack*. Also used verbally.

M.S. B.N.C. J.S. C.C. H.S. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

WHACKER. Anything large of its kind. "What a *whacker!*" *i. e.* What a great lie!

M.S. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

WHACKING. A succession of blows.

2. Huge, stout, lusty. "A *whacking* piece of bread and butter." "A *whacking* child."

B.N.C. 2nd ed. C.C. H.S. T.G. A.W. H.P. H.A.D.

WHANG. A blow or bang.

E.L. H.A.D.

2. To beat; to throw or bang down with violence.

I'd just streak'd down, and, with a swish,

Whang'd off my hat, soak'd like a fish.

CLARE'S Rural Life (1820), p. 60.

C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

WHATSOMIVER. Whatsoever, whatever. An archaism rather than a vulgarism.

All beistis and byrdis of divers cullours sere,

And *quhatsumever* in the brade lochis were.

DOUGLAS, Virg. p. 118. (Craven Dialect.)

B.N.C. C.C. H.H. J.S. L.H. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

WHAT'S WHAT. "I know *what's what*:" *i.e.* I know what is right and proper, and what is to my interest, as well as you do, though you do not give me credit for it.

I know *what's what*. I know on which side

My bread's buttered.

FORD, The Lady's Trial, ii. 1.

(Craven Glossary.)

None knows *what's what* but he that tries it;

And then he well knows how to prize it.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 13.

C.C. H.A.D.

WHEAL. *See* WALE.

2. A flake, a layer: as clay land which separates into laminæ called flakes or *wheals*. Now quite obsolete. See Morton, p. 39.

WHEEL. "*Wheel* within a *wheel*." A phrase applied to persons who act from concealed or interested motives. "There's a *wheel* within a *wheel*, or you wouldn't have got that:" *i.e.* the person who made you that present expects another in return, or he has some favour to ask of you.

WHEELS. "To keep cart on *wheels*," is to be able to carry on business, &c. as usual, and maintain the same position in society as heretofore.

If Fate's so kind to let's be doing,
That's just keep cart on *wheels* a-going;—

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 89.

C.C.

WHEEZY. Drawing breath with noise and difficulty.

WHELM or WHEMBLE. To cover anything by turning some vessel over it; probably a contraction of *overwhelm*. "*Whelm* that dish over them currants." A woman at Peterborough had seven children so small that she said she could "*whelm* 'em all under a skip." A.-Sax. *ahwylfan*, *hwealfian*, to cover over, to overwhelm. Palsgrave says, "*Whelme*, an holowe thyng over another thyng." "*Whelme* a platter upon it, to save it from flyes." There are various forms of this word in other districts.

C.C.&T.G. "Whemmle." H.P. "Whelm. Whemmelled."

H.A.D. "Wemble. Whalm. Whelme."

WHELT. Wheeled. "He *whelt* in a good lot of stuns (stones) ready for the job."

WHEOT. A broad pronunciation of wheat.

H.S.

WHEREWITH. Money or means. Used substantively. "He has not the *wherewith*."

B.N.C. 2nd ed. H.A.D.

WHEWT. To whistle. A word formed from the sound. Sometimes used substantively.

G. B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

WHICKS. Plants or slips of the white thorn. Another form of QUICKS, which *see*. A.-Sax. *cwic*.

B.N.C. T.G. H.A.D.

WHIFF. A short time. "I'm coming in a *whiff*."
Correspondent with JIFFY.

B.N.C.

2. To puff. "He *whiffed* the candle out."

F.E.A. T.G.

WHIFFETING. An epithet applied to slender, weakly, insignificant-looking persons. Probably from *whiff*, a puff, so slight as to be moved by a *whiff*.

WHIFFLE. To shift, as the wind. "The wind *whiffles* about so."

E.L.

WHIFFLING. Slight, slender, insignificant. "A little *whiffing* fellow." Nearly allied to WHIFFETING.

WHIG. "Sour as *whig*." A common proverbial simile. A.-Sax. *hwæg*. Cotgrave Anglicises Babearre by "*Whig*, or butter-milk." Brockett defines "*Whig*, sour whey:" either of which will give a definite meaning to our apparently unmeaning comparison.

Drink *whig* and sour milk, whilst I rince my throat
With Bordeaux and Canary.

O. P. The English Traveller. (Toone.)

WHILE. Time, space. "I have been waiting a long *while*." "All the *while*:" i. e. constantly. "They were all the *while* so noisy." A.-Sax. *hwil*. Sometimes used plurally, as, "It rains between *whiles*." "I'll do it between *whiles*."

C.C. H.H. T.G. H.A.D.

2. 'Till or until. "It wants a quarter *while* nine o'clock." "I was quite well *while* yesterday." "I sha'n't leave home *while* to-morrow."

Looke that your brydle be wight, my lord,
And your horse goe swift as shipp at sea;
Looke that your spurres be bright and sharpe,
That you may pricke her *while* she'll away.

PERCY'S Reliques (ed. 1794), vol. i. 306.

—— We will keep ourself

Till supper time alone; *while* then, God bless you!

Macbeth, iii. i.

B.N.C. C.C. F.E.A. G.&P. H.P. H.A.D.

WHILOM. Whilst, during which time. "Stay *whilom* I come." A.-Sax. *hwilum*, awhile, for a time. Bishop Kennett's Glossarial Collection gives, "*Whilom*, some while."

Whilom Ralph, for Doll to wait,
Lolls him o'er the pasture gate.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 121.

WHIMMY. Full of whims and fancies; changeable. A very general word, and ought to be in the dictionaries.

C.C. H.A.D.

WHIMS. The sides of an oven, whether of brick or stone, about one foot high. *Whissoms* was the correlative term in Morton's time, but it is now quite obsolete.

WHIM-WOM. A BIRD-BOY'S CLACKERS for frightening birds from fruit or corn. The latter part of this compound appears to be derived from the A.-Sax. *woma*, terror: thus making the word what it really is—a fancy-terror.

WHIN. The restharrow. *Ononis arvensis*, var. *spinosa*.

WHINDLE. To whine as a child. I have no authority for this word but Bp. Percy's MS. Localisms.

WHINNOCK. A small, weak, dwindling child. A puny, sickly child is "a poor little *whinnock*."

WHINNOCKING. Peevish, whimpering, complaining fretfully.

M.S. "Winnick." F.E.A.

WHINNY. To neigh as a horse or young colt. A corruption of *whine*. "I *whynye* as a horse dothe, or dogge."—Palsgrave. Ray has the proverb, "It's an ill horse can neither *whinny* nor wag his tail."

And though he were as naked as my nail,
Yet he could *whinny* then, and wag the tail.

DRAYTON, The Moon Calf.

The young horse *whinnies* to his mate,
And, sickening from the thresher's door,
Rubs at the straw-yard's banded gate,
Longing for freedom on the moor.

CLARE's Shep. Cal. p. 24.

M.S. H.H. F.E.A. C.S. A.W. H.S. T.G. H.F.

H.A.D.

WHINY PINY. Fretful, complaining.

H.A.D. "Winy piny."

WHIPPER SNAPPER. An active, diminutive, little fellow.

B.N.C. J.S. C.C. H.P. H.A.D.

WHIP-STALK or WHIP-STOCK. A whip-handle.

Bought you a whistle and a *whipstalk* too,
To be revenged on their villanies?

Span. Trag. O. P. iii. 180. (Nares.)

For Malvolio's nose is no *whipstock*.

Twelfth Night, ii. 3.

M.S. H.A.D.

WHIP THE CAT. When one of the players at the game of whist wins all the tricks in one deal, he is said to *whip the cat*.

WHIRLIPUFF. A sudden gust of wind driving the dust into an eddy.

Where the *whirlipuff* comes as if something was in't,
And tazzles the grasses, and ruffles the corn,
And runs o'er the corn-field in less than a minute.

CLARE's MS. Poems.

WHIRRING. Flying with noise.

The moor-cock springs on *whirring* wings
Among the blooming heather.

CLARE's MS. Poems.

WHISK. Whist, a game at cards. Now a vulgarism, but it is spelt *whisk* in the Country Gentleman's Vade

Mecum, 1699. This game requiring thought and silence, probably owes its name to the word *whist*, which, in its various forms of verb, participle, and interjection, denotes silence.

C.C. T.G. H.A.D.

WHISKET. A large, round basket with handles, made of unpeeled osiers; used in barns for chaff, and holding more than a bushel: if containing a bushel, or less, it is called a chaff SKIP or scuttle. *Whisket* occurs in several of the glossaries and dictionaries, but it is not specifically defined.

R.N.C. G. M.S. B.N.C. C.C. C.S. L.H. "Wisket."

H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

WHISPERING-PUDDING. A plum-pudding in which the plums are very close, and near together; in contradistinction to a HOOTING-PUDDING, where they are few, and far between.

WHISTLE. The throat. Seldom or never used except in the common phrase, "to wet the *whistle*," to take a draught of liquor. "Come, wet your *whistle* before you go." Its use in this sense occurs in early authorities. "I wete my *whystell* as good drinkers do."—Palsgrave. The Craven Glossarist suggests that "it is a corruption of *weasle*, an old term for the weasand or windpipe."

So was here jolly *whistle* well ywette.

CHAUCER, Reeves Tale.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.P. "Wet." H.A.D.

2. "Clean as a *whistle*:" a proverbial simile signifying entirely, completely; as, "I have lost my knife as clean as a *whistle*."

C.C.

3. "To *whistle* for it:" to try for anything ineffectually. "You may *whistle* for it, but you won't get it."

WHITAWER. A collar-maker, or maker of husbandry

harness. A.-Sax. *hwit-tawer*, a dresser or worker of white or whitleather.

E.L. "Whittan." H.A.D.

WHITE. A name given by butchers to that piece of beef which joins the round: *i. e.* the flank.

WHITE FROST. A hoar frost.

C.C. H.A.D.

WHITE-NEB'D or WHITE-BEAK'D CROW. A rook. *Corvus frugilegus*. (Linn.) The carrion crow is called the *black-neb'd crow*.

G. B.N.C. H.A.D.

WHITE-WALL. The spotted fly-catcher. *Muscicapa grisola*. (Linn.) This bird receives its name from its colour, and its habit of building its nest on a projecting stone in a wall.

WHITE-WING. The chaffinch. *Fringilla cœlebs*. (Linn.) For the various synonymes of this bird, *see* PEA-FINCH.

WHITLEATHER. White leather. Untanned leather made from horses' hides, and used for hedge-mittens and *whit-leather* thongs. A.-Sax. *hwit*, white. "As tough as *whit-leather*" is a very common comparison. Halliwell erroneously gives, "*Whitlether*, a kind of coarse cloth;" but his illustration exemplifies our meaning.

Thy gerdill made of the *whittlether whange*,
Which thow has wore God knawes howe longe.

MS. Lansd. 241.

E.L. T.G.

WHITSUN-ALE. *See* Appendix.

WHITTER. To murmur, to grumble, to complain; to decline in health; to pine after. "Don't *whitter* so."

H.A.D.

WHITTERING. Wearisome, tedious. "Don't be so *whittering*."

WHITTERY. Indisposed from fretfulness.

F.E.A. H.A.D.

WHITTERISH. Faded. Applied to clothes which have lost their colour from the effect of the sun, or frequent washing, and are becoming whitish.

WHITTLE. A small clasp-knife. A.-Sax. *hwytel*.

A Shefeld *thwitel* bare he in his hose.

CHAUCER, Reeves Tale.

Beholde my *whittle* almoste hath lost the blade,
So long time past is sith the same was made.

BARCLAY'S Mirrour of Good Manners.

4th Egloge (1570).

G. M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.S. H.A.D.

2. To haggle with a dull knife. "How you *whittle* that stick." "Why you'll *whittle* that stick away, till there's nothing left." The habit of *whittling* and the word are both very common in the eastern states of America, though not mentioned by Bartlett.

B.N.C. 2nd ed. H.H. H.A.D.

3. To wear by friction, to chafe, to rub. A saddle which pinches a horse's shoulder *whittles* the skin; a shoe working against a stocking *whittles* a hole in it, or *whittles* the skin off the heel. A very general use of the word.

WHIZZER. A falsehood.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

WHIZZLING. Heedless, careless, thoughtless. "She goes *whizzling* about and does not know what she's doing."

WHO'E, WHO'E, WHO'E! An exclamation used in driving pigs, as Tig, Tig, Tig! calls them together. Cotgrave has "*Hou, Hou, Hou!* hootings or whoopings; voices wherewith swine are scared;" from which our word is doubtless derived.

WHOPSTRAW. A contemptuous appellation for a country clown.

The bumptious Serjeant struts before his men,
And "clear the road, young *whopstraws*!" will he say.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. i. p. 36.

H.A.D.

WHOT. Hot. This vulgarism is unaltered Saxon.
"Sixpennorth o' *whot* gin and water as *whot* as *whot*,"
is no uncommon application to a village landlady.

Neither to melt in pleasure's *whott* desyre,
Nor frieze in hartlesse grieve and dolefull tene.

SPENSER, Faërie Queen, bk. ii. c. 1.

Nathlesse now quench thy *whott* emboyling wrath.

Ibid. bk. ii. c. 5.

G. W.C. J.S. H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

WHULL. The common pronounciation of whole.

WHUZ. To make a hissing noise. "She complain'd of
such a *whuzzing* in her ears." A corruption of *whiz*.

WHY. An elliptical interjection, commonly used at the
beginning of a sentence, expressive of a transient feeling
of hesitation or surprise.

—— You have not been a-bed, then ?

Why! no. The day had broke before we parted.

Othello, iii. 1.

Ninus' tomb, man ! *Why!* you must not speak that yet :

That you must answer to Pyramus.

Mid. N.'s Dream, iii. 1.

WI. A contraction of with. "Goo *wi*' me."

Wi' what I have, *wi*' such I'll greet ye.

CLARE'S Rural Life, p. 90.

And, lud, what a crushing and crowding were *wi*' em,

What noises are heard at a fair.

Ibid. p. 155.

C.C. T.G.

WIBBLE. The weevil: an insect detrimental to malt
and grain. *Curculio granarius*. (Linn.) Several other
insects of the same genus, of similar habits, also bear
the name of *wibble*. A.-Sax. *wifel*. Anglo-Latin Lexicon,
" *Webyl* or malte boode."

WIBBLE-WOBBLE. To be unsteady, to shake. "How the table *wibble wobbles!*"

H.S. H.A.D.

WIC. Wick. Week. A.-Sax. *wic*. "Monday come *wic*," on Monday sennight. "Saturday was *wic*," a week last Saturday. Frequently used for the plural. "It wants six *wic* till Wissuntide."

A.W. H.A.D.

WIDDLE. To fret.

R.N.C. G. H.P. H.A.D.

WIDE-AWAKE. Keen in bargaining. Any one who is alive to his own interest is said to be *wide-awake*. Halliwell gives "*Wide-awake*, intelligent."

WIGGLE-WAGGLE. To vibrate, to move tremulously. A word formed by reduplication.

M.S. B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

WILKS. "As deep as *Wilks*." A person who was proverbial for his craft and cunning: or more probably allusive to *Wilkes* the celebrated pseudo-patriot.

WILD-FIRE. "It flies like *wild-fire*." A metaphorical comparison for any news or report which spreads rapidly.

WILD-GRASS NETTLE. Hedge-nettle. *Stachys sylvatica*.

WILLOW-WICKS or WILLOW-WITHES. Small twigs from the willow-tree.

A captive fish still fills the anxious eyes,
And *willow-wicks* lie ready for the prize.

CLARE'S Village Minstrel, vol. ii. p. 102.

WILLY-NILLY. Willing or unwilling.

With foul reproches and disdainful spight
Her vilely entertaines, and, *will or nill*,
Beares her away upon his courser light.

SPENSER, Faërie Queene, bk. i. c. 3.

C.C. H.A.D.

WILTED. Withered, shrunk, shrivelled; as "the apricots are *wilted* because they were gathered before they were ripe." Nearly allied to **WELTED**, which is restricted to well-dried hay. "To *wilt*, to wither, as flowers and greens are *wilted*," is given by Bishop Kennett in his MS. Glossary, and assigned to Buckinghamshire; Halliwell notices the word as still current in that county. It obtains the same meaning in Scotland and the United States according to Jamieson and Bartlett.

WIMMA. With me. "Will ya gu along *wimma*."

WIND-FLOWER. The wood anemone. *Anemone nemorosa*.

On the river banks shining primroses,
Even more bright than morn's first ray,
Daisies and *wind-flowers*, and no end of posies.

CLARE'S MS. Poems, "River Banks."

WINDING-SHEET. A candle-fold. Believed by the superstitious to be an omen of death in a family.

C.G. H.A.D.

WING-BEAM. Synonymous with **COLLAR-BEAM**, which see.

WINKING. "He does it like *winking*," is used comparatively for speed and expedition. "He'll do it as quick as *wink*," is sometimes said.

Snap went the sheers, then in a *wink*,
The fang was stow'd behind a *bink*.

MORRISON'S Poems, p. 110 (Jamieson).

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

WINROW or WINDROW. A term in haymaking, when three **HATCHELS** or narrow **SWATHES** are spread into one broad *windrow*, so that the wind may the more readily pass through the **SWATH**, or dry the ground between the *winrows*. Jamieson gives the verb "To *win*, to dry corn, hay, &c. by exposing them to the air;" which suggests the origin of our term.

G. M.S. F.E.A. H.S. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

WINSOME. Cheerful, blithsome, lively, gay. A.-Sax. *winsum*. More common in Scotland than in England.

I got your letter, *winsome* Willie.

BURNS.

B.N.C. H.A.D.

WINTER-PROUD. An epithet applied to grain in the blade in winter, when too forward and luxuriant, and which, in consequence, deteriorates or declines as spring advances.

E.L.

WIPE. An indirect censure. "I gave him a sly *wipe*."

M.S.

WISH. To encourage or assist any one in their trade or worldly occupation. "I always lay out my money at Smith's shop, as I like to *wish* him a penny when I can."

WISHES. A moderated word for imprecations or oaths. "He took a many *wishes*," was an expression used by a witness in the Sessions Court at Northampton; *wishes* being used as an euphemism for oaths.

WISHING-BONE. The merrythought of a fowl. Two persons, each taking hold of one end of the clavicle, pull till it separates, silently breathing at the same time whatever wish inclination prompts, and the one who succeeds in obtaining the largest portion will have, it is said, the wish gratified.

WISHY-WASHY. Weak, insipid, tasteless, applied to liquids.

B.N.C. C.C. H.A.D.

WISSUNTIDE. Whitsuntide. It is also customary to call Whitsunday *Wissun* Sunday. An archaic form according to Hunter.

B.N.C. "Wissontide."

WITHS or WITNES. Sounded as pith and pithy. Bands made of any wood that is pliable enough to twist

and bind round faggots, or to use for horticultural purposes. When employed for securing thatch they are termed *withes* or SPRAYS. Palsgrave has "*Withy*, to bynde a faggote." Fosbroke, in his *Encyclopedia of Antiquities*, says, "The custom of twisting *withy* bands to bind hedges, &c. is very ancient. The hedge (*virgultis implicatis*) is mentioned by Varro, and willows were purposely planted to furnish tyes for vines." In the *Encyclopedia Metropolitana*, p. 134, it is considered that the word *with* or *withe* is from the Gothic verb *withan*, to bind or join together. The same work cites a passage where King Charles uses *withes* metaphorically:—

These cords and *wythes* will hold men's consciences when force attends and twists them.

Much earlier authorities might be quoted, but I shall only add the following:—

——— dried fitches of some smoked beeve,
Hanged on a writhen *wythe* since Martin's eve.

BP. HALL's Satires.

M.S. H.S. L.H. A.W. H.P. "Widdy." "With." H.A.D.

"Widdey." "With."

WITHY. The second growth of the willow tree, after it has been headed or STAGGED. A.-Sax. *withig*, *salix*. The *Encyclopedia Metropolitana* says, "The willow-tree is called a *with*-tree or *withy*-tree, because its slender twigs are used to *with* or bind together many objects of rural economy."

WITHY-POLES. When osiers are so old as to lose their pliability, they are termed *withy*-poles, and are used for hurdle bars and rails. An unpeeled osier is called a *withy*, when peeled an osier-rod.

WITS' END. "I am quite at my *wits' end*:" *i. e.* I am quite puzzled and perplexed how to carry my purposes into action.

The neighbourhood were at their *wits' end* to consider what would be the issue.

L'ESTRANGE.

WIZZEN. The windpipe.

H.A.D.

WIZZENED. Dried, wrinkled. Applied to shrivelled fruit, and to the contracted dryness of the skin in old age. A.-Sax. *wisnian*, arescere.

G. M.S. B.N.C. W.C. C.C. H.H. F.E.A. L.H. A.W.

H.S. H.P. H.A.D.

WIZZLE-PATED. Giddy, hare-brained, thoughtless.

E.L.

WONNOT. Will not. A well-authorised vulgarism.

I wonnot go; I'll not be forced away.

DRYDEN'S Conquest of Granada,

Pt. II. a. iii. s. 1.

My heart's exceeding heavy: falling tears

Dazzle my sight, and *wonnot* let me see you.

SOUTHERNE, The Loyal Brother.

WON'T. (Rhyming to *don't*.) Sometimes worked up into a double negative, making an affirmative: as, "I never did, and I never *won't*."

WONTED. Accustomed to persons and places. "The child has not been with them long: she won't be so dull when she's *wonted*." A mother said, "Etty must go to school another half-year to *wont* Nancy."

H.A.D.

WOOD. "All in a *wood*." In a state of perplexity and bewilderment. "I'm all in a *wood*, I can't tell what to do."

— Help the boy;

He's *in a wood*, poor child!

BEAUM. & FL. Mad Lover, a. iv.

The meaning of *wood* here is evidently a modification

of that it bore in the time of our ancestors: "mad, furious."

He hap a devyle þ maddip or waxeþ *wood*.

WICLIF MS. Ioon x.

2. "Don't hollo till you're out of the *wood*," and, "Don't whistle before you're out of the *wood*," are both common admonitions not to exult till all obstacles and dangers are overpast.

WOODDLED. Muffled, wrapped up about the head and neck. Probably a corruption of *hooded*. "You're so *wooddled* up, I don't think you'll catch cold."

WOODEN-HEADED. Stupid, awkward, dull of comprehension. "He's a *wooden-headed* fellow."

WOODHUS. A wood-barn.

WOODSEER. See CUCKOO-SPIT. Clare, who is a close observer and faithful delineator of the rural phenomena of nature, thus describes *woodseers* in the *Village Minstrel*, vol. i. p. 135:

Insects of mysterious birth
Sudden struck my wond'ring sight,
Doubtless brought by moisture forth,
Hid in knots of spittle white;
Backs of leaves the burden bear,
Where the sunbeams never stray,
Wood-seers called, that wet declare:
So the knowing shepherds say.

M S. H.A.D. "Woodsoar."

WOOL. Will. Moor humorously exemplifies this corruption.

M.S. H.A.D.

2. "Great cry and little *wool*:" a proverbial expression implying great promises and small performances. The phrase occurs in *Hudibras*.

WOOLGATHERING. "Your brains are gone a *wool-gathering*:" an old expression applied to an absent

or confused person. Florio renders "*Dare le cevella*, &c. to let one's wits *go a woolgathering*."

His wits were a *woolgathering*, as they say, and his head busied about other matters.

BURTON, Anat. of Mel. p. 1, s. 2.

Lord help the lad, his head has been *woolgathering*! I thought how it would be when the womankind were admitted.

The Antiquary.

M.S. C.C. H.A.D.

WOOLING. Picking up the loose bits of wool left on the ground, or on the briars in the spring, before sheep-shearing. Women and children so employed are said to go a *wooling*.

WOOLPACK CLOUDS. Clare defines them, "the rack or high clouds." Halliwell says, "Light clouds in a blue sky are called *woolpacks* in Norfolk;" but the term does not occur in Forby's East Anglian Glossary.

WOOULT. The weevil. Synonymous with WIBBLE, which *see*.

WORD. "One *word* for me, and two for yourself." Said to one who is selfish under an appearance of disinterestedness.

WORDS. "To have a few *words*" is to quarrel, to wrangle, to disagree. "They had a few *words*, and have never been friends since."

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

WORK-BRITTLE. Very industrious; earnest or intent on work.

WORLD. A great quantity, a deal, a multitude. "She's so rich, she's got a *world* of money." "The rain 'ill do a *world* o' good." "He's a bad lad: I've had a *world* o' trouble with him." "What a *world* of things I've got to do!"

P.D. H.A.D.

2. Unlimited duration of time. "It'll take a *world* of time to do it." *World* seems to bear this meaning in the last line of the doxology—" *World* without end:" and Shakspeare, I think, uses it in the same sense in the following passage:

King. Now, at the last minute of the hour,
Grant us your loves.

Prin. A time, methinks, too short
To make a *world*-without-end bargain in.

Love's L. Lost, v. 2.

WORM-CASTS. The small earthy protuberances thrown up by worms. *Worm-puts* is synonymous in Suffolk.

WORRIED. Perplexed, annoyed with a multiplicity of occupations. "I'm *worried* to death."

WORRIT. To tease, to annoy. "He's always *worritting* me about something or other." This and the foregoing word are very nearly allied.

WORSELVES. Ourselves.

H.P.

WORSEN. To become worse. "It's *worsen* than it was."

And it is still episcopacy that, before all our eyes, *worsens* and slugs the most learned and seeming religious of our ministers.

MILTON'S Works, vol. i. p. 4, c. 1. (1837.)

C.C.

WORSHIP. "More trouble than *worship*," "More trouble than *worthship*:" *i. e.* More trouble than it is worth. A singular idiomatic phrase, showing that this word was not always used in a religious sense.

WORTHY. Fortunate enough. "If I had been *worthy* to have known what was going forward, I'd a been there." This phrase is probably a relic of puritanism.

F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

WO'T. A contraction of *won't*, or will not.

Wo't stay, Lysimachus?

FLETCHER'S *Coronation*, a. iii.

WOUKING. Yelping, barking. "A little *wouking* dog."
One who is much addicted to barking is a tiresome
wouker.

WOUL'T. Wilt. Shakspeare adopts this vulgarism.

Come, show me what thou'lt do.

Woul't weep? *woul't* fight? *woul't* fast?

Woul't tear thyself?

Woul't drink up esil? eat a crocodile?

I'll do it.

Hamlet, v. 1.

WRAGGLE ON. } To struggle with difficulties, most
WRIGGLE ON. } generally of a pecuniary kind.
"Times are very bad, but I hope I shall manage to
wraggle on, and pay my way." If a mistress has an
inefficient servant, she will often say, "I'll try if I can
wriggle on till Michaelmas."

WRAP AND WRING. To rake and scrape together,
said of a covetous person. "He *wraps and wrings* all
he can."

H.H.

WRIG. An abbreviation of *wriggle*. "The table *wrigs*
about."

WRIGGING. *Wriggling*. "The child's allus *wrigging*
about."

WRINKLE. When a person has obtained any particular
information or knowledge on any subject, he is said to
have gained another *wrinkle*.

C.C. H A D.

WRITING LARK. See SCRIBBLING LARK. This bird is
occasionally called simply the "*Writing* bird."

WRITINGS. "They've burnt the *writings*." A phrase — used when speaking of persons who have disagreed after considerable intimacy.

H.A.D.

WROUT. To bore and ROOTLE in the ground like pigs.

A.-Sax. "*Wrotan*, to grub up, root up the ground as pigs."

B.N.C.

WULL. The constant form of will, exemplified in the old weather proverb:—

Saturday change and Sunday full
Is always wet, and always *wull*.

E.L. C.C.

WULLY. Wholly.

WUSSER. The comparative degree of bad. "*Wusser* and *wusser*."

Y.

Y. This letter is a general prefix amongst our rustics to words commencing with a vowel, as *yal* for ale, *yable* for able, *yacker* for acre, *yackern* for acorn, *yappern* for apron, *yeow* for ewe, *Yed'ard* for Edward. Y is uniformly sounded before *ea* indiscriminately, as in *years*

VOL. II. T

for ears, *yarly* for early, *yarn* for earn, *yarth* or *yerth* for earth; and is frequently substituted for *h*, as in *yead* or *yed*, for head, *yeth* for heath, *yarbs* or *yerbs* for herbs.

YAFFLE. To yelp or bark as a small dog.

C.C. E.L. H.A.D.

YAH. You. An exemplification of this word may be seen in the illustration to STORE.

YALE-HUS or YELHUS. Ale-house.

C.C. J.S. T.G. H.P.

YANGLE. A triangular frame of wood, placed over the neck of a cow, to prevent its breaking through fences. In some places it is called a YOKE.

M.S. F.E.A. H.P. H.A.D.

YAPPING. Yelping.

YARNT. Earned. "He *yarnt* more this week than last."

YAT or YATE. Gate.

And after this he to the *yatis* wente.

CHAUCER, Troil. & Cres.

To openen and undo the hye *yates* of hevene.

PIERS PLOWMAN.

Sperre the *yate* fast for fear of fraud.

SPENSER, Shep. Cal. May.

R.N.C. G. B.N.C. "Yet." W.C. C.C. H.H. A.W. H.S.

L.H. T.G. H.P. H.A.D.

YAUKING or YAUPING. Calling out loudly; hooting. "A man went *yauping* down the street like mad." Junius has YAULP for yelp.

The stately stagge that seemes so stout,
By *yalping* hounds at bay is set.

PERCY Reliques, vol. ii. p. 164. (1794).

YAUUL. To cry out, to vociferate. "What do you stand *yauling* there for?"

This *yawl'd*, that brawl'd, another beat the bar.

SILVESTER'S *Du Bartas*, p. 434, col. 2.

The strutting peacock *yawling* 'gainst the rain.

DRAYTON, *Noah's Flood*.

F.E.A.&H.P. "Yawl." H.A.D. "Yawle."

YEANDER. Yonder.

R.N.C. G. H.A.D.

YEARNING. Earning or RUNNING, which *see*.

G. H.P.

YEARTHENWARE. Earthenware.

C.C.

YELBEN. } A portion of straw or HAULM laid in order
YELM. } for the use of the thatcher. A.-Sax. *healm*,
YELVEN. } haulm, straw, *culmus*, or *Gilm*, a *yelm*,
manipulus.

M.S. F.E.A. E.L. H.P. H.A.D.

YELBENER. The person who prepares the straw, and lays it in convenient bundles for the thatcher.

YELLOW BOYS. Guineas. This slang term would not have found admittance here, if it were not authorised by Dryden.

How now! *yellow boys*, by this good light!

Sirrah! varlet! how came I by this gold? ha!

DRYDEN'S *Wild Gallant*, i. 2.

G. H.A.D.

YELLOW CRANE. Lesser spearwort. *Ranunculus flammula*.

YETTUS or YITTUS. Yet; at present. "I can't come *yittus*." "He has not heard *yettus*."

E.L. H.A.D.

YEUTIE or EUTIE. The whinchat. *Motacilla Rubetra*. (Linn.) Another instance of the *y* preceding the vowel.

YOK. A yoke. A frame of wood placed across the shoulders to enable a person to carry two buckets full, and hence applied to the quantity so carried, as "a *yok* or yoke of water," *i. e.* two buckets full.

Now maidens, fresh as summer roses,
Journeying from the distant closes,
Haste home with *yokes* and swinging pails.

CLARE'S Shep. Cal. p. 5.

YOKE. The same as YANGLE.

YOLK. The grease of wool. Wool that is oily is said to be *yolky*.

P.D.&H.A.D. "Yoke."

YON or YONAWAY. Yonder, at a distance. "He lives *yon*." "Go *yonaway*, and you'll find him."

T.G.&H.P. "Yon."

YORP. To make a loud noise. Another form of YAUP

E.L.

YOURN. } Commonly given as the contraction of "your

YORN. } own;" but may they not be the substitution
of the Saxon plural termination *n* for the *s*, in yours?
See OURN.

C.C. J.S. H.A.D.

YOWKIN. Yelping or bawling. Applied personally, as well as to dogs. "How that woman goes *yowkin* about!"

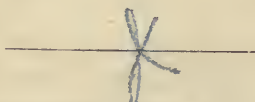
YOWLING. Howling or barking like a dog. Another substitution of *y* for *h*.

G. C.C. H.S. T.G. H.P.

YOWLEY. The yellow-hammer. *Emberiza citrinella*.
(Linn.)

YOWT. To yelp or bark.

E.L.



ADDENDA.

ALGER. Quick-witted, keen, sharp.

ANTE. (Pronounced *aunty*.) Have not ye? "*Ante* dun't?" *i. e.* Have not you done it?

BACK-STONING. A mode of ploughing, in which the earth, having been previously turned, is turned back again. *Back-striking* in Suffolk, according to Moor.

BAWMING AND SLAWMING. Daubing and sliming. "He *bawmed and slawmed* it all over mortar and wash."

E.L.

BIRN. To borrow. *See* the proverb under SIRD.

BLACKTHORN WINTER. When the East wind prevails at the time the black thorn is putting forth its foliage.

BLOACHED. A term applied to land when it is intersected by veins of a lighter coloured earth. Morton, p. 385, uses the same word in describing the leaves of the variegated holly.

BLOB-LIP. A very full lip that hangs down. *Pet-lip* is equivalent in the Craven Dialect.

BRATCH. (Often pronounced *Breatch*.) Any kind of spring-sown corn.

BRAZIL-BALLS. Balls made of *Brazil-wood* for playing at the game of bowls. Iron wood and *lignum vitæ* are other names for this hard wood: hence the simile, "As hard as *Brazil*."

BROWSING. The feeding rack in a cow-hovel.

BUDGY. Thick, clumsy: applied to work that is badly mended. A variation of *botchy*.

CAGG. "An old *cagg*." Any old wrinkled female, as an old woman, cow, or ewe. So defined by Bp. Percy in his MS. list.

CAUSING. Cutting, producing. When the teeth first appear in the gums of an infant it is said to be *causing* its teeth. "The child is so *TATCHEY*, it's *causing* its teeth."

CODGE. To bungle. "How you've *codged* that hole up!"

CRUPPERY. Crooked. "What a *cruppery* staircase that is!"

DODLING. Dodging.

DOLLING. Rhyming to tolling, with which it is synonymous. "They're *dolling* the bell for somebody." Exemplified in the nursery rhyme:—

or Dingy?

Ding *doll* bell,

Poor puss is in the well.

DRAWING. Walking about idly without any particular object. "I've done nothing but *draw* about all the morning." It is very commonly said of a young man who admires a lass and follows her about, without any intention of making her his wife, "He's always *drawing* after her, but I don't think he means anything." Young girls who are found of walking about the streets are said to be always *drawing* about.

HARK BACK. To retrace your steps. When searching for anything which you cannot find, and think you have overlooked, it is said, "I must *hark back*," i. e. I must go back and look again.

HURK. To take out the entrails of a hare or rabbit; synonymous with HULK and HULT.

MEADOW-BRIGHT. Marsh marigold. *Caltha palustris*.

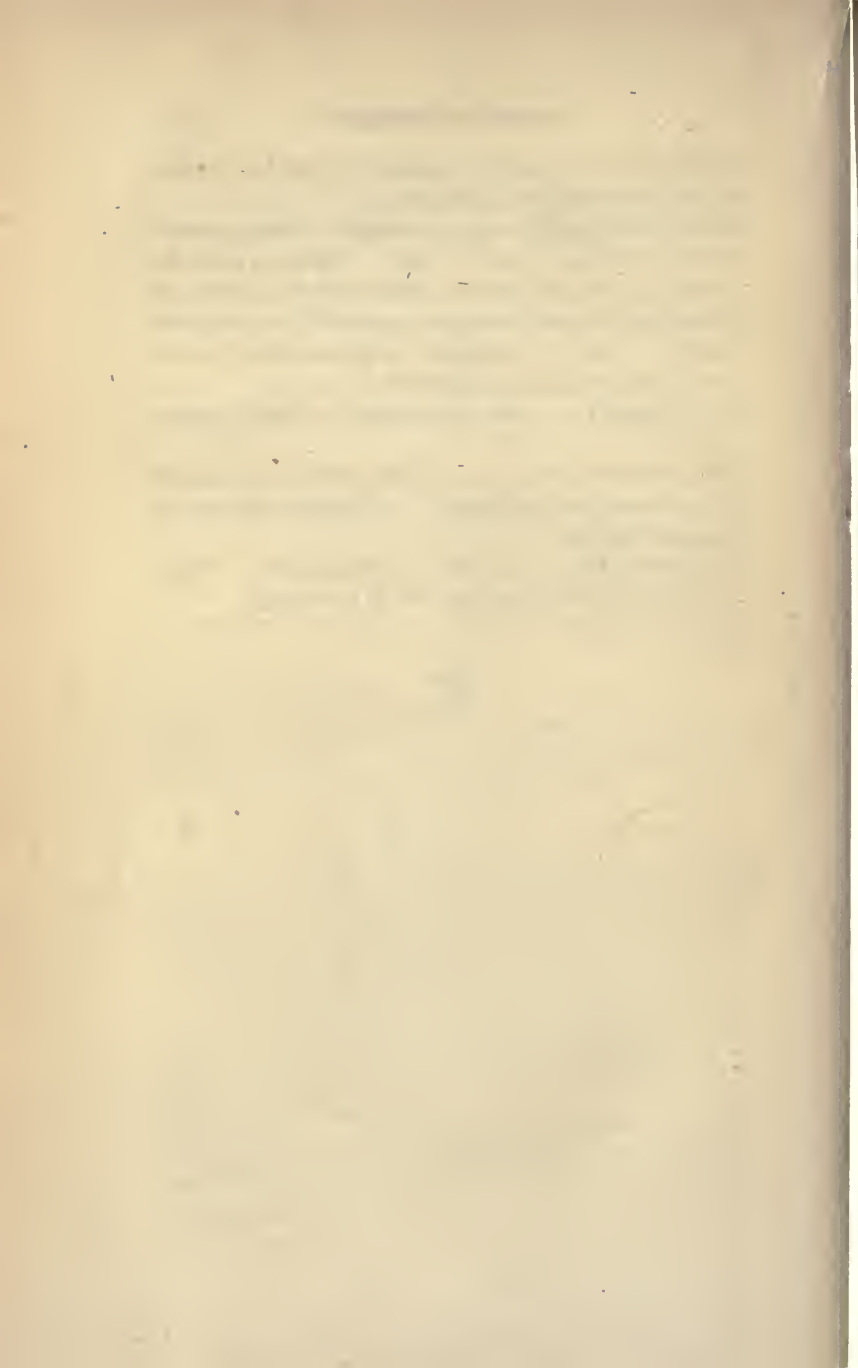
NAME. "Biting a *name* in beer." Taking a very full draught. "I don't like to drink with that fellow, he bites his *name* in the beer too much," *i. e.* he takes a double portion to what I do. The singularity of this vulgarism induces me to insert it.

NETTLE-BIRD. The white-throat. *Motacilla sylvia*. (Linn.)

PUG. To crowd, to crush. "That small house is *pugged* in between two high ones." "The two families live *pugging* together."

STEPPED OUT. Improved in circumstances. "He's quite *stepp'd out* beyond the rest of the family."

YF



APPENDIX.

BISHOP BLAZE.

BLAZE or BLASIUS was bishop of Sebaste in Armenia; why or when he was elevated to the Roman Calendar is not recorded; but he is the reputed inventor of the art of wool-combing, and has always been considered the patron saint of the woollen manufacture; certain branches of which were until a comparatively recent period carried on in this county to a considerable extent. His Anniversary, the 3rd of February, was formerly commemorated every third or fourth year by a procession of the masters and journeymen engaged in the trade, in the several towns, and even villages, in the county where any branch of it was carried on.

The introduction of machinery and other causes have in a great measure led to the removal of this once flourishing trade to distant parts of the kingdom, and the celebration of the festival of Bishop Blaze has, in consequence, ceased in this county: it may have been continued a few years longer in some parts of the county, but the last observance of it in the town of Northampton was in 1804, when the procession paraded the principal streets in the following order:—

A band of Music.

A large Flag,

with full-length representations

A Trumpeter.

of Bishop Blaze, Shepherd,
and Woolcomber,

A Trumpeter.

Orator,

Page leading his
horse.

Orator,

Page leading his
horse.

A Son of Jason,
with drawn sword,
guarding the fleece.

Jason,
carrying the golden
fleece.

A Son of Jason,
with drawn sword,
guarding the fleece.

BISHOP BLAZE,

habited in a black gown, and a mitre
composed of Jersey.

Chaplain,

carrying an open bible on
a cushion.

Shepherd,

with Page leading his
horse.

Shepherdess,

with Page leading her
horse.

Sorters, two and two,

with coloured Jersey helmets on their heads, crossed sashes
or scarfs with tassels on their shoulders, and wands
in their hands ornamented with tassels;

all of various colours, chiefly
red and blue.

Masters,

two and two, on horseback.

The cavalcade halted at convenient distances opposite the houses of the masters and some others of respectability, when the orators alternately delivered a poetical Address, eulogising their patron saint, and explaining the different processes which the wool had undergone. The following is the Address delivered on the occasion, which was composed by a journeyman wool-comber of West Haddon, in this county:—

ADDRESS.

Silence, ye Crowds ! we humbly ye beseech,
 Whilst we in accents loud proclaim our speech !
 Tho' mean our style, we'd fain set forth the praise
 Of that incomparable, ingenious Blaze !
 Who, on this blessed day, " was wafted o'er
 From *Jersey's* Isle to Britain's fertile shore."
 When he beheld the Wiltshire * flock-spread plain,
 He never wish'd, nor e'er return'd again :

" This sight (said he) my soul with rapture fills,
 " To see them graze this lawn, and tread yon hills !
 " Guard them, ye shepherds ! for the public good,
 " Whose hair is clothing, and whose flesh is food :
 " Near this famed spot (our reverend father said)
 " Will I reside, and here establish trade ;"

He spake the word, and sure the word was true :
 What profits from the staple now accrue !
 How many different hands it now runs through !

The first, the *Washer*, let us not o'erlook,
 Who, with much hardship, shiv'ring, stands the brook,
 Dabbles their sandy coats with toil and care,
 Takes out the filth, and makes them look more fair.

The *Farmer* next provides a sumptuous feast,
 At which the *Shearers* are most welcome guests,
 Whilst one by one they strip the panting flock,
 Fold up each fleece, and gather up each lock ;
 Pack'd on a horse (or wain), he bowls it home,
 And, cheerful, hastes to bid the *Winder* come :
 He comes, unwraps each fleece (believe our tale),
 Winds it again, and makes it fit for sale.

Some worthy master soon (for grant) is told
 That such a person's wool remains unsold :
 He views the *lot*, admits it suits his choice,
 And bids per *tod* as runs the selling price ;
 The bargain struck, the wool in *tods* is weigh'd,
 The calculation made, the money paid.

And now the *Sorter* at the *board* attends,
 To separate fine from coarse, at's finger-ends ;
 By whom alone a true distinction's made
 To suit the various purposes of trade.
 And shall we now forbear a sound to raise
 On *us*, thine own adopted sons, O Blaze ?

* Salisbury plain.

No, surely no ! our farce would turn to jest,
 Were we not shuffled up among the rest.
 Our *dozens* weigh'd, we name our *lots* and *scour*
 (Which hinders us from combing many an hour).
 Then, then, my souls ! to prove we're first-rate men,
 We drink to work, and work to drink again.

Thousands of *Spinners* in the British Isle,
 From our support of trade, have cause to smile.
 True, they might gad from house to house and play,
 But what's the consequence?—no work, no tea !
 For 'tis a maxim one and all must grant—
 That such as labour hard shall banish want.
 Avaunt then Idlers ! be your sorrows great,
 For such as nothing earn, shall nothing eat.
 May such as hear our tale this day grow wise,
 And learn from us true industry to prize;
 Industry we with open arms embrace,
 And friendly stamp it on the rising race;
 Our sons for *quill-boys* twirl the *swift* and *wheel*,
 Our daughters early taught to *knit* and *reel* :
Spoolers and *warpers* at their engines toil
 For ready cash, and idle hours beguile.
 Shall not the *weavers* herd amongst our throng ?
 Yes, they are more than twice ten thousand strong;
 In many parts were England traced through,
 Nor does this part of it consist of few.
 Let *dyers*, *pressers*, *packers*, all combine,
 And drink our healths, this day, in ale and wine.
 For lo ! this very day commenc'd our trade,
 This day behold us move in grand parade;
 Hail happy period ! Masters, be ye glad
 To see your workmen uniformly clad.
 This day we set apart to shew our works,
 To-morrow we must slave again like Turks.
 Long may each shop-mate live to work and sing
 Success to Trade, our Masters, and our King.

At the close of this address the surrounding spectators were appealed to for donations, a box with a slit in it being handed round to the crowd below, and another fixed to a long pole was presented to the upper windows

for receiving the contributions. The money thus collected was afterwards expended in a dinner or social entertainment for the men.

MAY DAY.

AMIDST all the sports and pastimes of our ancestors there is none of which we have preserved more remnants than of the May Day Festival; the present simple and pretty celebration is looked forward to with interest and delight by all our rural lasses, for there are very few villages where it is not noticed in some way or other.

This festival appears to have originated about 242 years before the Christian era, in consequence of a celebrated courtesan named Flora having bequeathed her fortune to the people of Rome on condition that at this season they should yearly celebrate her memory in singing, dancing, drinking, &c. and these revels were called Floralia or May Games. After some years the senate of Rome exalted Flora to be the goddess of flowers, and celebrated her festival by ceremonies, rejoicings, and offerings of spring flowers, and branches of trees in bloom. These games were brought into Britain by the Romans, and the May-maid decorated with flowers is the undoubted representative of the Floral goddess.

The observance of this day varies in different districts, but the garlands, though differing in size, are similarly constructed to the one at Kingsthorp, engraved in Hone's Every Day Book.

The skeleton of the garland is formed of two hoops of osier or hazel crossing each other at right angles, affixed to a staff, about five feet long, by which it is carried; the hoops are twined with flowers and ribbons so that no part of them is visible. In the centre is placed one, two, or

three dolls, according to the size of the garland and the means of the youthful exhibitors; great emulation is excited amongst them, and they vie with each other in collecting the choicest flowers and adorning the dolls in the gayest attire; ribbon streamers of all the varied colours of the rainbow, the lacemakers adding their spangled bobbins, decorate the whole. The garlands are carried from house to house concealed from view by a large handkerchief, and in some villages it is customary to inquire if the inmates would like to see the 'Queen of May.'

It is a pleasant sight to see
A little village company
Drawn out upon the first of May
To have their annual holiday.

This is a spectacle that is still seen in Northampton on May Day morning; the girls from the adjacent villages bring in their garlands and perambulate the streets, exhibiting them from house to house, and wherever they receive a satisfactory contribution they chant their simple ditties, which conclude with wishing the inhabitants of the house "a joyful May" or "a merry month of May." The verses sung by the Dallington children are entirely different from those of any other village, and are here subjoined:—

The flowers are blooming every where,
O'er every hill and dale;
And oh! how beautiful they are,
How sweetly they do smell.

Go forth, my child, and laugh and play,
And let your cheerful voice,
With birds and brooks and merry May,
Cry out rejoice! rejoice!

When the Mayers have collected all the money they can obtain, they return to their homes and regale themselves, concluding the day with a merry dance round the garland. Time was—

When every village did a Maypole raise,
And Whitsun-ales and May games did abound;

but all this has gradually degenerated into the simple garland and staff. Clare, in one of his MS. Poems, describes the manner in which May Day is observed in his native village (Helpstone) and the neighbourhood around; it was written expressly for the present work, and I here transcribe it:—

How beautiful May and its morning comes in !
The song of the maidens you hear them begin,
To sing the old ballads while cowslips they pull,
While the dew of the morning fills many pips full.

The *closes* are spangled with cowslips like gold,
Girls cram in their aprons what baskets can't hold;
And still gather on to the heat of the day,
Till force often throws the last handful away.

Then beneath an old hawthorn they sit one and all,
And make the May garlands and round *cuck* a ball
Of cowslips and blossoms so showy and sweet,
And laugh when they think of the swains they shall meet.

Then to finish the garland they trudge away home,
And beg from each garden the flowers then in bloom;
Then beneath the old *eldern*, beside the old wall,
They sit out to make it, maids, misses, and all.

The ribbons the ploughmen bought maids at the fair,
Are sure to be seen in a garland so fair;
And dolls from the children they dress up and take,
While children laugh loud at the show they will make.

Then they take round the garland to shew at each door,
With kerchief to hide the fine flowers cover'd o'er;
At cottages also, when willing to pay,
The maidens their much admired garland display.

Then at *duck under water* * adown the long road,
 They run with their dresses all flying abroad;
 And ribbons all colours how sweet they appear!
 May seems to begin the new life of the year.

Then the garland on ropes is hung high over all,
 One end to a tree and one hooked to a wall;
 Where they *cuck* the ball over till day is nigh gone,
 And then tea and cakes and the dancing comes on.

And then, lawk! what dancing and laughing is there,
 While the fidler makes faces within the arm chair;
 And then comes the *cushion*, † the girls they all shriek
 And fly to the door from the old fiddler's squeak;

But the doors they are fastened, so all must kneel down
 And take the rude kiss from the unmannerly clown.
 Thus the May games are ended, to their houses they roam,
 With the sweetheart she chooses each maiden goes home.

At Polebrook the last few days of April are employed by the Queen of May and her juvenile attendants in gathering what flowers they can procure from the surrounding meadows, and in calling at the houses of the principal inhabitants to beg flowers, the gift or the loan of ribbons, handkerchiefs, dolls, &c. with which to form their garland. This being arranged on hoops, as already described, the youthful maidens assemble on May morning and carry the decorated garland round the village preceded by a fidler, and the following quaint old song—very similar to the one given by Hone as used at Hitchen, and from its phraseology appearing to have been written in the time of the Puritans—is sung by the Queen and her company at the different houses, and a gratuity is solicited:—

* See vol. i. p. 204.

† See Cushion Dance, p. 437.

Remember us poor Mayers all;
For now we do begin
To lead our lives in righteousness,
For fear we'die in sin.

To die in sin is a serious thing,
To go where sinners mourn;
'Twould have been better for our poor souls,
If we had ne'er been born.

Now we've been travelling all the night
And best part of this day;
And now we're returning back again,
And have brought you a branch of May.

A branch of May, which looks so gay,
Before your door to stand;
'Tis but a sprout, but 'tis well spread out,
The work of our Lord's hand.

Arise, arise, you pretty fair maid
Out of your drowsy dream,
And step into your dairy-house
For a sup of your sweet cream.*

O for a sup of your sweet cream,
Or a jug of your brown beer;
And if we tarry in the town,
We'll call another year.

Now take the Bible in your hand
And read a chapter through,
And when the day of judgment comes,
The Lord will think of you.

Repent, repent, ye wicked men,
Repent before you die;
There's no repentance in the grave,
When in the ground you lie.

* Is was an old custom in Suffolk in most of the farm-houses (and probably in Northamptonshire) that any servant who could bring in a branch of hawthorn in full blossom on the 1st of May, was entitled to a dish of cream for breakfast.

But now my song is almost done,
 I've got no more to say;
 God bless you all, both great and small,
 I wish you a joyful May.

The garland is afterwards suspended by ropes from the school-house to an opposite tree, and the Mayers and other children amuse themselves by throwing balls over it. With the money which is collected tea and cakes are provided for the joyous party; the Queen of the May takes her seat at the head of the tea-table, under a bower composed of branches of May and black-thorn; a wreath of flowers is placed on her head, and she is hailed 'Lady of the May;' the attendants wait around her, the party of Mayers seat themselves at a long table below, and the evening concludes with mirth and merriment.

The rest of the May songs—of which I have several—vary so little from the Polebrook and from each other, except in the transposition of the verses, that I need not insert them. The one sung at Morton Pinkeney, however, I give as being different:—

I have a little purse in my pocket,
 All fixed with a silver pin;
 And all that it wants is a little more silver
 To line it well within.

The clock strikes one, I must be gone,
 Or else it will be day;
 Good morning to you, my pretty fair maid,
 I wish you the merriment of May.

Formerly it was customary in the northern part of the county—and as it is alluded to in most of the May songs, we may conclude it was once general—to place a large branch of white-thorn at the doors of most of the houses in the village; at the present time the young people in

some places carry about branches in their hands. A native of Fotheringhay, Mr. C. W. Peach, who by his own persevering efforts has raised himself to a distinguished position as a naturalist, has supplied me with the reminiscences of his youth regarding May Day. I give it as near as I can in his own words. He states that he was accustomed to go into the fields over night and very early on May Day to gather cowslips, primroses, wood anemones, blue bells, &c. which abound in Northamptonshire, to make the garlands, &c.

The garland, if possible, was hung in the centre of the street, on a rope stretched from house to house. Then was made the trial of skill in tossing balls (small white leather ones) through the framework of the garland, to effect which was a triumph.

The May-bush was a large tree (if such an expression may be allowed) selected for being tall, straight, full of branches and, if possible, flowers; he says, "I have been looking out for a pretty bush days before the time, and, if hawthorn and in blossom, then it was glorious. I have seen them ten or twelve feet high, and many in circumference, and they required a stalwart arm to carry and put them into a hole in the ground before the front door, where they were wedged on each side so as to appear growing. Flowers were then thrown over the bush and around it, and strewn as well before the door. Pretty little branches of white thorn, adorned with the best flowers procurable, were occasionally put up unperceived by others, if possible, against the bed-room window of the favourite lass, to shew the esteem in which she was held, and the girls accordingly were early on the alert to witness the respective favours allotted them. Elder, crab-tree, nettles, thistles, sloes, &c. marked the different degrees of disrespect in which some of them were held."

At Nassington they carry garlands about on the 1st of May, and beg for money; in the evening they tie them across the street from chimney to chimney, and dance under them. Formerly, married women used to amuse themselves by playing under them at the game of "Duck under the water:" for a description of which see vol. i. p. 204.

The individual to whom I am indebted for the description of the May-bush at Fotheringhay mentions also a singular custom at Nassington, which I believe is unrecorded. There is a large tract of meadow-land lying on the side of the river Nen, which the inhabitants of that village have the right of pasturing cows upon: according to Bridges' History of this county, vol. ii. p. 468, a right of common was granted to the townsmen of Nassington and Yarwell in Seweley, within the limits of Rockingham forest, in the 2nd of Edw. IV., which I presume to be the date of this privilege.

The season for the inhabitants to turn their cattle into pasture commences on May-day; and, on the evening preceding, a rail is put across the entrance to the pasture, which the cows must leap to get in. A considerable degree of rivalry takes place on the occasion; the lads watch through the night and the dawning of May-day—the lasses with their cows being ready at the proper moment—to see which cow shall leap the rail first into the meadow, and the cow which does this is led round the village in the afternoon, her horns decorated with ribbons, &c. Degradation only awaits the hindmost cow: she has to carry elder, nettles, and thistles as her badge, and mortified indeed is the lass who milks her; she has to run the gauntlet of gibes and jeers.

Some apology is perhaps necessary for all these minutiae; but, while much is recorded of the observance of this floral

festival in olden time, the present shadows of the past claim to be preserved from oblivion.

Long may blythe May her garland weave,
And deck her floral Queen !
Pure are the joys such pastimes breathe,
And lasting be their reign.

MUMMING.

Who lists, may in their mumming see
Traces of ancient mystery.

SCOTT.

MUMMING is an ancient amusement derived from the Roman Saturnalia, and so called from the Danish *Mumme*, or Dutch *Momme*, disguise in a mask. Christmas is the grand season for this performance, and I believe it was formerly general throughout the county, though it now only lingers in a few detached villages, as in this age of refinement few only will allow their dwellings to be made the scene of this antic pastime, as the performers enter uninvited, suddenly throwing open the door, and one after the other enact their different parts.

The Mummers consist of young men, generally six or eight, who, during the Christmas holidays, commencing on the eve of Saint Thomas, go about in the rural districts disguised, personating different characters, and performing a burlesque tragedy at such houses as they think will recompense them for their entertainment. Brackley is the only market-town where I have ever heard of the custom

being observed. Some years since, at the seat of the late Michael Wodhull, Esq. Thenford, I witnessed the representation of the following mock play by eight Mummers, all masked.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Beelzebub.—Jacket, with patches of different colours, paper cap, and a besom in his hand.

Activity.—Fox or hare-skin cap and tippet.

Age on the Stage.—Smock-frock covered with rags, high paper cap, and a sprig of holly.

Doctor.—Jacket, with a sheep-skin skirt behind, bell fastened at his back, top boots, high cap with a sprig of holly.

Doctor's horse.—A man who carries the doctor on his back, and supports his hands upon a small stool as he moves along.

Jem Jacks, the doctor's man.—Jacket covered with rags, stuffed with straw at the back; fringed cap of various colours. Carries the doctor's pill-box.

Fool.—Large flat cap, great coat covered with rags, a long stick strung with whipecord, a calf's tail fastened at one end, and an inflated bladder with beans at the other, called a hurdy-gurdy.

Treasurer.—A cap, carries a box or canister for contributions.

BEELZEBUB comes forward and says,

In comes old Beelzebub,
On his shoulder he carries a club,
In his hand a dripping-pan;
Don't you think he's a funny old man?
Sweep, sweep, make room for me
And all my jolly company.

ACTIVITY enters and says,

Activity, Activity,
If any man interrupts me,
I'll cut him down as small as a fly,
And send him to the cook to make mince pie.

AGE follows, accepts ACTIVITY's challenge, and says,

I am the man that dare to bid you stand,
Although you say you'll cut me down as small as a fly,
And send me to the cook to make mince pie.

Guard your body, and guard your blow,
 And see which on the ground shall go.
 A battle, a battle, between you and I,
 And see which on the ground shall lie.

ACTIVITY *and AGE fight, AGE knocks ACTIVITY down, and calls the*
 DOCTOR *to assist ACTIVITY, and says,*

Five pounds I'll freely give for the three-farthing Doctor.

DOCTOR.

I am the Doctor.

AGE.

Where do you come from?

DOCTOR.

From France and Spain,
 To fetch the dead to life again.

AGE.

What ails can you cure?

DOCTOR.

Hard corns, soft corns, the itch, the stitch,
 The palsy, and the gout;
 Pains within, and pains without.
 Bring an old woman to me
 That's been seven years dead,
 And seven years buried,
 And seven years put in her grave,
 If she will take one of my pills,
 It will fetch her to life again.

DOCTOR *calls—*

My man Jack!

JACK.

Coming, Sir.

DOCTOR *to ACTIVITY.*

These are the pills that cure all ills,
 And if your neck's broken
 They'll set it again.

JACK.

In comes I, little Jim Jack,
With my wife and family at my back;
Although my substance is but small,
I'll do my best to please you all.
Roast beef, plum pie—
Who likes it better than I?
I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year,
A pocket full of money, and a cellar full of beer.

FOOL.

Here comes I
That never came yet,
With my great head
And little wit.
My head is big,
My wit is small,
I'm the biggest fool amongst you all.

The Fool then plays the hurdy-gurdy, and knocks them all down; and the whole concludes with a general scuffle on the floor. The Treasurer then goes round the company, shaking his box for contributions.

The other versions of this drama, which I have obtained, are so similar to the one given above, that it is needless to insert them. The Mummers are most frequently disguised with discolourations of red, white, and black on their faces, and any grotesque attire they can procure.

The name is often now ignorantly transferred to the Plough Witches who go about on Plough Monday.

WHITSUN-ALE.

A FESTIVAL held at Whitsuntide, supposed to have been derived from the Agapai or Love-feasts of the early Christians: by some it is considered a commemoration of the ancient Drink-lean—a time of festivity formerly observed by the tenants and vassals of the lord of the fee, within his manor; and the mirth and jollity which attended these festivities have preserved them in the memory of the people long after their discontinuance. “The Glossaries inform us that Drink-lean was a contribution of tenants towards a potation or *ale* provided to entertain the lord or his steward.”

Douce says, “Concerning the etymology of the word *ale* much pains have been taken. The best opinion seems to be that, from its use in composition, it means nothing more than a feast or merry-making, as in the words Leet-ale, Lamb-ale, Whitsun-ale, &c. At all these feasts *ale* appears to have been the predominant liquor, and it is exceedingly probable that from this circumstance the metonymy arose.”

The Whitsun-ale seems to have been one of the most important amusements of the middle, as well as of the humbler classes, and with its various pageantries and revelries it occupied a whole week; I have no notice of its observance except on the south-western side of the county.

At King's Sutton, my informant witnessed the last celebration of it about the commencement of the present century; a barn was fitted up for the entertainment, and he thus describes the procession:—

Lord's music.	The Lord's	Fool.
2nd music, tabor, and pipe.	Son.	Fiddler.
	Lord	
Right hand man.	carrying mace *	Left hand man.
Sword bearer.	very richly dressed.	Sword bearer.

All dressed in their best, with their hair powdered, carrying maces in their hands.

Treasurer.	}	Dressed in	}	Treasurer.
Butler.		red and blue.		Butler.
Servitor.				Servitor.

Six Morris Dancers.

The Morris Dancers were dressed with cross-belts of broad ribbon ornamented with five roses before, five behind, and one on each shoulder, with bunches of blue and red ribbon at each hip. For further particulars of their dress and mode of dancing, see MORRIS DANCE, p. 31. The procession used to go to the neighbouring villages, and at the principal house they presented a plum-cake, called a crown-cake from its price when sold.

The *Whitsun-ale* was formerly kept at Gretworth, but has been discontinued since 1785. As the procession in some measure differed from King's Sutton I shall give it:—

Constable.

Esquire or Lord's Son.

Fool,

attired in a motley garb, with a gridiron painted
or worked with a needle on his back,
carrying a stick with bladder
and calf's tail.

* It is stated in a note in Brand's *Popular Antiquities*, edited by Halliwell, that "the mace is made of silk, firmly plaited, with ribbons on the top, and filled with spices and perfumes, for such of the company to smell to as desire it."

My Lord's music.

My Lady's music.

Majordomo, and his Lady as Queen of the May.

Supporters on each side.

My Lord's morris
(six in number).

Butler.

Butler.

Treasurer,

Treasurer,

with sash and box.

with sash and box.

The whole decorated with badges of orange and blue.

A May-pole with garlands was fixed up for the merry company to dance around, and the Morris Dancers, with the grimaces and gesticulations of the Fool, added to the hilarity of the assembled multitude. A barn was prepared for the banqueting; and all those who misconducted themselves were obliged to ride a wooden horse, and if they were still more unruly, they were put into the stocks, which was termed being my lord's organist. Though this ancient revelry has ceased, Whitsuntide continues in our rural districts to be one of the most joyous seasons throughout the year, being chosen for the anniversary of the Clubs and Friendly Societies. Nothing can be more lively and exhilarating than the processions at these club-holidays; all the attendants dressed in their best, music playing, flags flying, the church bells joining their merry peal, and the whole population of the village coming forth to gaze on the enlivening scene. For a minute and graphic description of these clubs, see Howitt's *Rural Life of England*, vol. ii. p. 186.

ST. CATHARINE'S DAY.

25TH NOVEMBER.

BOTH Brand and Hone mention that this day is kept as a holiday by young people in different parts of the kingdom; but I have never been able to ascertain that it is observed in any place in this county, except at Peterborough, where, till the introduction of the new poor laws, the female children belonging to the workhouse, attended by the master, went in procession round the city on St. Catharine's Day.

They were all attired in white, and decorated with various coloured ribbons, principally scarlet; the tallest girl was selected to represent the Queen, and was adorned with a crown and sceptre. The procession stopped at the houses of the principal inhabitants, and they sung the following rude ballad, begging for money at every house as they passed along.

Here comes Queen Catharine, as fine as any Queen,
With a coach and six horses a coming to be seen :
And a spinning we will go, will go,
And a spinning we will go.

Some say she is alive, and some say she is dead,
And now she does appear with a crown upon her head :
And a spinning we will go, &c.

Old Madam Marshall she takes up her pen,
And then she sits, and calls for all her royal men :
And a spinning we will go, &c.

All you that want employment, though spinning is but small,
Come list and don't stand still, but go and work for all :

And a spinning we will go, &c.

If we set a spinning, we will either work or play,
But if we set a spinning we can earn a crown a day :

And a spinning we will go, &c.

And if there be some young men, as I suppose there's some,
We'll hardly let them stand alone upon the cold stone :

And a spinning we will go, &c.

St. Catharine being the patron of spinners, as well as of spinsters, and spinning being formerly the employment of the females at the workhouse, it naturally followed that they should be selected to commemorate the anniversary of this saint: and that this commemoration is of great antiquity appears from the early entries in the Dean and Chapter's accounts of payments, on St. Catharine's Day, for wheels and reels for the children of the workhouse.

CUSHION DANCE.

THE Cushion Dance appears to be of some antiquity; it is mentioned by Seldon in his *Table Talk*, 1689, as forming one of the dances in the courts of Queen Elizabeth, James the First, and the first and second Charles. In Playford's *Dancing Master*, 1698, p. 7, it is described as follows: "This dance is begun by a single person (either man or woman) who, taking a cushion in his hand, dances

about the room, and at the end of the tune he stops and sings, 'This dance it will no further go;' the musician answers, 'I pray you, good sir, why say you so?' Man — 'Because Joan Sanderson will not come to.' Musician. — 'She must come to, and she shall come to, and she must, whether she will or no.' Then he lays down the cushion before a woman, on which she kneels, and he kisses her, singing 'Welcome, Joan Sanderson, welcome, welcome.' Then she rises, takes up the cushion, and both dance, singing 'Prinkum, prankum is a fine dance, and shall we go dance it once again, and once again, and shall we go dance it once again?' Then making a stop, the woman sings as before, 'This dance it will no further go.' Musician. — 'I pray you, madam, why say you so?' Woman. — 'Because John Sanderson will not come to.' Musician. — 'He must come to,' &c. (as before). And so she lays down the cushion before a man, who, kneeling upon it, salutes her, she singing, 'Welcome, John Sanderson,' &c. Then he taking up the cushion, they dance round singing as before, and thus they do till the whole company are taken into the ring. Then the cushion is laid before the first man, the woman singing, 'This dance,' &c. (as before) only instead of 'not come to,' they sing 'go fro;' and instead of 'Welcome, John Sanderson,' &c. they sing 'Farewell, John Sanderson, farewell, farewell;' and so they go out one by one as they came in."

The Cushion Dance is still continued, with some variations, by the humbler classes in this county, as described below, and generally closes the evening's amusements.

One of the young men endeavours secretly to bring in a cushion, and locks the door to prevent the escape of the young maidens; then all the party unite hands and dance round three times to the left, and three times to the right; after which the company all seat themselves except the young man who holds the cushion; he advances to the

fiddler and says, "This dance it will no further go." Fiddler.—
"Why say you so, why say you so?" Cushion-holder.—
"Because the young women will not come to." Fidler.—
"They must come to, they shall come to, and tell them I
say so." The cushion-holder then goes to the girl he
fancies most, and drops the cushion at her feet; she kneels
down with him on the cushion and he salutes her; and
they then rise and dance round and round to the fiddler.
The young woman then addresses the fiddler, "This dance
it will no further go." Fiddler.—"Why say you so, why
say you so?" Girl.—"Because the young men they will
not come to." Fiddler.—"They must come to," &c. She
then goes to any young man she fancies, who kneels with
her on the cushion, and they kiss each other and dance
round and round, as before, to the fiddler. The person last
kissed then holds the same dialogue with the fiddler, and
takes the cushion to another young woman, and so on,
until the whole company have gone through the same
ceremony, which concludes with all dancing round three
times as at the commencement.



FINIS.

THE FOLLOWING CUSTOMS ARE NOTICED IN THE GLOSSARY.

VOL. I.

	Page		Page
April Fool Day	17	Fig Sunday	232
Booting	66	Gooding	283
Boxing Day	73	Harvest Cart	310
Clipping Posies	125	Hot-Cross-Bun Day	338
Duck under the Water	204	Lady Coventry	380
Dyzemas Day	207	Largess	385
Feast	222	Lowbelling	407

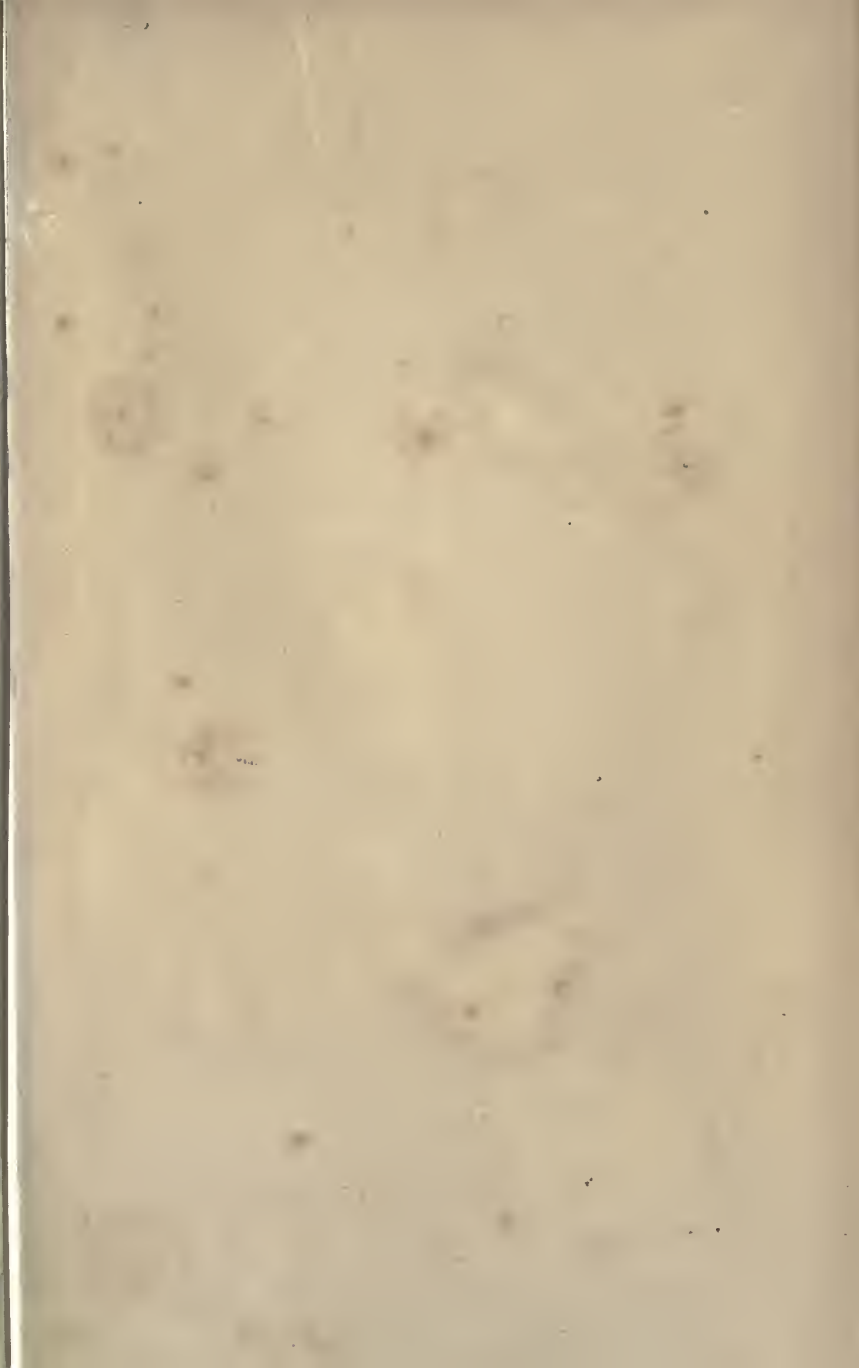
VOL. II.

— Merells or Morris	16	Plough Monday	123
Mill, or Shepherd's Mill	21	Possessioning	131
Mop	29	Propping	139
— Morris Dance	30	Riding	170
Mothering Sunday	33	Royal Oak Day	185
Nine Holes or Trunks	56	Seed Cake	211
Nine Men's Merells	57	Shepherd's Hey	224
Oak Apple Day	68	Statee or Stattis	292
Old Shoe	75	* Valentining	371
Pancake Bell	91	Waits	378
Pancake Day	93		

ERRATA.

Page	Line
2,	10, for H.L. read L.H.
29,	29, for H. read H.A.D.
45,	7, read Nappy. Ale.
126,	4, for most read moist.
145,	33, for level read lever.

Page	Line
230,	2, after out add work.
324,	25, for tack-away read take-away.
324,	26, for c c. "Take-away" read "Tack-away."



~~7~~ Mommock - Made -
Phill-horse -
Vaurat -
Mommereck -
Minkie -
Tiet -
Tike -
Poicock -
Scale -
Old (= wild) - Old (old) -
Shoot (suit) -
Mommie & merells -
Mommie's dance -
Cotton -

~~7~~ Valentining -
Thrup -
To go to school -
Pop-singing -
7 Mommie & Mommereck - 28 Scrabble & Sc. table

FL 16-7-65

PE Baker, Anne Elizabeth
1992 Glossary of Northamptonshire
B3 words and phrases
v.2

Robarts

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE
CARDS OR SLIPS FROM THIS POCKET

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARY
